



Clients: An Address to Students

BY THE PRESIDENT, MR. PAUL WATERHOUSE, M.A.

[Delivered at the General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects on Monday, 5 February 1923.]

I HAVE decided after much thought to address you—students of architecture—on the subject of clients.

It is a subject so fraught with delicacy that it is almost ranked among the indelicacies of conversation. I do not remember to have ever heard a responsible architect with clients of his own speak publicly upon the topic. The reason for this lack of utterance may possibly lie in the fear that no man can possibly speak from experience of clients in the past without hopelessly alienating the clients of the future. I have no such fear; for in the first place the employers of my past energies have seldom or never failed to deserve the kindest things I can say of them, and in the second I do not propose to utter anything to-night on the subject of clients in general that could bring any blush, but that of satisfaction, to their honest cheeks.

Do you all know what a client is? The word has a strange origin, and has in the course of history partly, I believe, through the action and attitude of lawyers, turned itself upside down.

A powerful Roman, on whom waited a hungry crowd of dependants, was wont to call himself their patron or *patronus*, and the dependants, who didn't mind what name they took so long as they got his favours, were dubbed clients. Literally, I understand, the word means one who listens eagerly, and, therefore, so long as our employers are waiting like

faithful hounds with ears cocked to catch our lightest word we may appropriately call them clients. But in this age of ours the *queue* system for employers of architects is, I believe, confined to one or two rather grave cases, and until it becomes a nuisance of general application I am given to think that the word is, from an antiquarian point of view, rather misapplied. The patron was the legal protector of his clients. Hence came the modern application of the word client to a solicitor's or barrister's employer. The application soothes the lawyers, but I have never heard of a lawyer who went the length of setting himself up as a *patronus*.

Anyhow, there are the clients for you—or there may be—and I mean to talk about them, even if I venture, out of respect for the class, occasionally to call them employers.

A great part of your business, if you are going to swim and not to sink, will consist in the successful treatment of your employers. You will please observe that I have escaped using the word "management."

I escaped it on purpose, because any idea of illicit persuasion, of cajolement or of deceptive encouragement is entirely foreign to what I have to say to-night.

There is one very simple, very obvious, and very rational condition embodied from the very beginning in every transaction between an architect and

his employer. It is so radical and integral that it astonishes me to find how frequently it is entirely overlooked by both parties.

The client's outlook on the coming job is hedged in like most fields of logical enterprise by two data, which you may call, if you are in a logical mood, the major and minor premises. But since the word premises is liable to be misunderstood in connection with architecture, and since these two data are of equal cogency, and are not necessarily pulling in the same direction, I prefer to call them the two counterpoises.

One of these, of course, is the house (or other building) that the employer wants and the other is the sum of money he is content to spend. Observe, I do not say the house he first asks for or the sum he first names.

And when I thus differentiate I am not at all implying that he is going to be screwed up to a building more costly than he wants or can afford, but simply that you and he, acting on one another, may modify these conditions at a very early stage in various directions.

Anyhow, there are these two elements—the price offered and the building wanted. Will they fit one another? It is a hundred to one that they will not. If they do not, it is well to remember that this misfit is probably nobody's fault.

At this stage it will be your privilege to point out to your employer that something has got to give way. The original idea of the house must be reduced or the sum of money must be increased. If you are both honest and really capable, no embarrassment attends the explanation. But you must be quite sure in your own mind that you are capable of working without extravagance.

The expedient at this stage of deceiving your client or yourself with an approximate estimate based on an unreasonably low factor of price is, of course, unpardonable as well as very impolitic.

You should always make approximate estimates and, I entreat you, always keep them. Start an approximate estimate book as soon as you have a brass plate, check each estimate with the contract figure, check it also with the final account, and keep it till you can hand it over to your office successor.

When you have satisfied your employer about price and he has satisfied himself about size and degree of luxury or simplicity, there remains still, as we all know, the great question of agreement on questions of taste. Here is, or may be, the hardest

trial of all. You may, it is true, come to a parting of the ways at which your ways must literally be parted. Your conscience as an artist may compel the severance. But it should not come before you have made sure that it is art, not obstinacy, that is stiffening your backbone, and until you have realised that there is more than one way of doing even a work of art. Certainly you should never do a work of which you are ashamed, but there is a difference between shame and mere disappointment, and you may be able, by substituting simplicity for your own choice in display, to achieve a triumph—not of mediocrity, but modesty. It is in cases where your patron asks for the too much rather than the too little that your profession of faith is most likely to be put to the trial.

Shall we remember here to come back for a moment to the more elementary essence of your craft, that architecture, as I have said elsewhere, is not so much a noun as an adverb. And the adverb is not "how much" but how.

The client pays for his house to be built. The builder builds it. The whole business of "how" it is built is yours.

It is with no disrespect towards clients that I tell you that they are of different kinds. Being human beings, they can hardly fail to differ. And these differences which make them so interesting as employers are partly differences of mentality and partly differences both of taste and of wealth. It is your business to be perfectly respectful students of these differences, not merely in your own interests but in theirs. Remember, it is you who stand, not as antagonists before your employers, but as mediators between them and the fulfilment of their own desires. There are some people who find great difficulty in expressing their needs. To them you will be helpful in guiding that expression. There are some who do not fully know their needs and who look to you for initiation into likely directions. Others there are who require your services chiefly because they rightly look upon an architect as the doorkeeper of building enterprise, just as a solicitor is the doorkeeper of law. It is well at the outset to discover by observation and with tact what is the light in which you are viewed, and if possible to make sure without any derogation from your office as artists that you do to the utmost of your ability supply, along with your artistry, that guidance, that prompting, or that specially businesslike alacrity which your employer quite legitimately seeks.

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You will find some clients—both individual and bodies corporate—who do not trust you. I do not blame them, for their attitude is caused either by unhappy experience in the past or by incorrect information as to the nature of an architect. It is best in such cases to make sure at an early stage of your own intention to be scrupulously worthy of trust, and, if possible, to convince your client in such a way as to change his mind. I say this not for your sake, nor wholly for his sake, but for the sake of the job.

I once had such a client—he was a corporate one—on a fairly large scale. Banking on the certainty that I should lead that body corporate into an expenditure 20 per cent. in advance of the contract, the said body cut my authorised expenditure down accordingly. I, being honest, robbed the building of certain things which I should have dearly liked to have incorporated in it, and came out of the final accounts triumphant. At least, I thought it was a triumph until I met the committee, when I discovered that my parsimony was a genuine disappointment. Let us gather from this experience, not that we may always exceed our orders, but rather that, if we all unite in keeping up the general reputation for working to a fixed figure, we shall kill that reputation for expansion, the rumour of which had led my friends into a temper of insufficient confidence.

But there are other minds who equally need our respect. There are employers to whom the achievement of a really fine building is of greater importance than the saving of money.

It will happen to you if you become moderately busy men that you will be simultaneously the stewards of the finances of employers, some of whom are at opposite extremes in this respect: and I know nothing more difficult than the exercise of brain demanded by having to turn, perhaps in the very same morning, to the interests of those who demand rigid economy: those who look for a perfect building, and those, again, on whose behalf decisions have to be taken on doubts, in which the counterpoise of perfection and cash has to be very evenly weighed.

No large building, however carefully planned and specified, gets through its whole course of creation without any variations. These variations are beset at every turn by the question of cost, and every question of cost has to be judged by one criterion only—that of the inclinations of the client. I say “of his inclinations,” which is not the same as

saying “his wealth,” and by no manner of means the same as your personal wishes.

You will think that I am degrading architecture to the level of rather sordid finance. Let me put the thing in another light. If an employer were to bring you an irregular mass of costly marble, and were to say to you, “It strikes me that this queer-shaped but precious block might be so cut that we could obtain from it material for the jambs and pediment of a doorway. It is unique, no man can obtain more of it; it is so valuable that we must not leave any of it unused.”

With what gaiety of heart would you set your ingenuity to work to get some original design achieved which would employ every ounce of that material and call for no more. My young friends, the stipulated price named for his building by a client whose means or legitimate wishes are limited is just such a block of precious metal.

If you HAVE *carte blanche* it is another matter, and if the *carte blanche* relates not to money only but to a free exercise of your own fancy, you are lucky indeed. But, remember, the greater the trust the greater the responsibility; and remember also that the best architecture is wrought as a rule from the conflict with limitations.

Remember, again, that quite apart from the question of future favours there is no friend like an old client. The relationship of architect and employer is one of the most intimate and delightful nature when nothing mars its perfection. The architect is, on the whole, the more likely of the two parties to disturb the smooth surface of that delicate relationship, for he has more opportunities of failure and is more greatly at the mercy of chance. Therefore, be ever on the watch, remembering through all your difficulties the value which your appointment has outside altogether of its pecuniary and professional nature.

To this end be very loyal. You are, if your work is a domestic work, admitted to an interior knowledge of your client's family life, which is very near that of the doctor and very like that of the solicitor.

Never tell stories of one client to another. Consider the financial side of your transaction as a confidential secret and regard as sacred all intimacy to which you are admitted.

If trouble comes between you, search your own mind for the cause of it, remembering that your employer, being a gentleman, may shrink from telling you what is the real cause of the break.

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Now let me talk quite boldly about the unspeakable subject of asking for work. You and I know that it "isn't done," but when we have said that we have said what isn't historically true. But between sending a letter of definite appeal direct to the projector of a building and lying low there are a great many fine shades of discreet or indiscreet suggestions, and persons have been known to draw the line for themselves at various points between zero and the boiling point. I am not going to tell you where the right line is, except that speaking in terms of the thermometer, I believe it is somewhere between zero and freezing point, and that the further it is below 32° the better. I do not suggest that a man should keep his candle under a bushel, but he should not push it under people's noses.

I have, however, one appeal to make. Every man who does in any degree propose his own employment, except by the legitimate means of competition and the like, not only does injustice to the more modest and loyal practitioners, not only breaks the code of our etiquette, which is, after all, a sportsmanlike agreement with one another, but

he paves the way for a possible breakdown of the condition under which we all live and work.

Consider for a moment the strain under which we should all live if the solicitation for work were general, and if we felt it our duty to ourselves, our wives and our families, to be always out on the war-path attacking every opening and besieging every likely promoter of building enterprise.

Gentlemen, if you wish our profession to "live happily ever after" and to be respected by those to whom we owe our opportunities, set your faces against self-recommendation.

The best people don't do it. Be best people.

In conclusion, I hope for you all that you may enjoy from the outset—through all the successes, disappointments and worries of honourable and happy careers, those pleasures and satisfactions which have been my own cherished possessions—the friendship and trust of good clients.

That they are long-suffering, that they often give that friendship where it is little merited, and bestow that trust in a degree which seems scarcely deserved, I for my own part know only too well.

Long live the good clients!

Vote of Thanks to the President

The Right Hon. VISCOUNT LEVERHULME: Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, I suppose I have been invited to propose this vote of thanks because everybody knows I am quite deaf and therefore it is impossible for me to have heard anything that has been said. It is ideal for the proposer of a vote of thanks, and not likely to produce any prejudice. But I have had the advantage, Mr. President, of reading your most delightful paper, and, as a client, I have had some prickings of conscience at many of the remarks you have made, especially about cutting down expenses. I cordially rejoice in what you say about making an architect your friend. My life-long friend is an architect; we have known each other for sixty-eight years. When we first met at a dame's school we were five years of age, and, as was the custom then at that age, we wore frocks; it was not until after five years of age that you were what was called "breeched." It was called a seminary for young ladies and young gentlemen. We have never had a quarrel. He has made many delightful plans for me, and executed a great deal of work, and our first quarrel has yet to come. I cannot say the same of every other professional man, but I can say I have not had a quarrel with an architect. That is due to the architect, however; it is not because of any merit of my own. I ought to have been an architect. It was the dream of my youth, and the maturer ambition of my riper years, but it never

came off. Instead of that, I have been building, or adding to existing buildings, each year, without exception, since I was nine years of age. At that early age I built a rabbit cote. I got a few empty bacon boxes in my father's grocery business and knocked the sides off, and choosing an angle of the garden where two walls joined, I built my rabbit cote. I had no contractor, I did it all myself, and I was proud of the fact that I could get into it along with the rabbits. I had a scheme which, if it had succeeded, would have done much to relieve the limitations of this land in regard to growing food. I thought that if I put six or eight inches of soil on to the roof of my rabbit cote and sowed some corn on it, I could get a rich harvest, and my precarious means of procuring my rabbits' food would be increased manifold. Everything went flourishingly until some hot days in summer, and then I saw it wither up; and this scheme, which would have added millions of acres if applied to the roofs of houses generally, and supplied food to the hungry people living in them, came to nothing. The next year I added a pigeon loft, and I have been building ever since in most countries of the world, and a delightful feeling it is. If I had been an architect, look what would have happened; I should have had far more pleasure, because when it came to paying I should have written a certificate and called on the client or employer, and he would have had to pay. Instead of that, I receive these

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certificates, and the lawyer tells me, "When you have a certificate from an architect the builder can sue you immediately, if not sooner, therefore you had better pay up, smile, and look pleasant," and I have to do it.

You were speaking, sir, about different clients, and about cutting down the expenses in building houses. I have only one regret about my buildings, and that is when I have cut down the architect's plans. There is a church at Port Sunlight, a delightful and beautiful church, and I remember a clergyman of the Established Church told me it was far too good for Congregationalists, it ought to have belonged to the Established Church. Yet whenever I go into that building I always see the first plans which Mr. Owen prepared for it—the father of Mr. Owen who was the architect for the Lady Lever Art Gallery. The plans he had prepared for the church were most delightful, and it was to have cost about double the existing building. In those days I felt the expense would not be justified; but every time I enter the church to-day I see those first plans, which were so delightful and which were never carried into effect. That is my regret. But I have never had any regret when I allowed the scheme of an architect to go forward without cutting down in any direction. I remember an ambitious architect—and these ambitious architects are always young—who built for me a delightful block of seven cottages at Port Sunlight. In those days we found we could build houses at Port Sunlight for an average price of £300 apiece, and I made that our limit. But this delightful block of seven cottages came out at £400 apiece, and I had to say, as chairman of the company, the custodian of the shareholders' money—is not that the expression?—that we could not do it. He said, "Will you let me do another block of seven, and I will average up so that they come to £300 each?" He erected another seven, but he did not bring the average cost within that. But he built still another seven, and the average for the twenty-one was £300. It is the most charming block in the village, and I am very glad we let him take the course he did take.

You said something about dealing with corporations. I think my feeling about not cutting down the architect must have been shared by a certain corporation of world-wide fame, perhaps not known to any of you by name until I tell you the name later, but certainly known to you; a town of about the size of modern Edinburgh. That corporation wanted to build public buildings: theatres, forums, and all other kinds of beautiful buildings. A modern architect, just before the war, went out there and took tracings of the buildings that had not been swept away. He measured up and priced out at English ruling prices per cubic foot what this nation's known buildings at Athens must have cost the corporation, and he concluded it must have come to at least five hundred millions sterling. Can

you imagine an architect putting before the rich City of London a scheme of municipal buildings, theatres, etc., and having the scheme approved and adopted if it were likely to cost five hundred millions? Yet I think the old City Fathers of Athens must have had the same satisfaction that I have always felt, and they would probably tell us so if they were with us to-day, that they did not cut down the cost of those buildings but carried them through. There is no part of the civilised world to-day that you can go to—London, Paris, New York—where you cannot see the mark and influence of the buildings built in Athens two to three thousand years ago. Athens has left its mark on the civilisation of the world; and I believe, Mr. President, the profession to which you belong does leave its mark indelibly on civilisation and marks our progress. One of the delightful features of modern architecture is the attention given to the home. The English home is founded on the lines of the cottage; not working downwards from the palace, but working upwards to the mansion from the cottage; and I think that the future of our English architecture is something we can well feel proud of. In whatever part of the world you may go to-day you see the people coming nearer and nearer to our charming Elizabethan, or a later period of domestic architecture, in building their homes and making their interiors. We may not have produced, in our architecture, forty-storey buildings, we may not have built wonderful classical temples, but we have produced the "home," the centre of civilisation, the unit of the race. If we have done that, I say our architecture transcends all other architecture in the world—and we have done it. When I said "we" then, I was mindful that you made me an Honorary Fellow of your Institute, and you took a very wise precaution, because before I was raised to this position a document was put before me, and I had to sign it—a document in which I declared I was not going to charge fees. Look what a protection that is for all employers! I do not know what I might have charged the company with which I am connected if I had not taken that rash pledge. One of the most delightful voyages I have had round the world was when in 1892 I left England and took with me among my papers a scheme for the real Port Sunlight. I came back with the plan for the place as it exists to-day. I have tried to find that old plan, and I have asked the architects about it, but it cannot be found. Perhaps I did not attach any particular importance to it at the time, and it was put with other papers which were not thought of much account; but I would give a good deal for it to-day if I could find it. I remember another occasion when I was invited to come here. I was then an Honorary Associate of your Institute. I forget what year it was, but it was over ten years ago, and there was present a very distinguished man who had come to hear the paper. He looked at me and said,

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"Lever, I did not know you were interested in these recondite subjects." I felt rather crushed, because all my life I had been interested in architecture, and I thought everybody knew it. It shows what fame is!

I have very great pleasure in thanking you, sir, on behalf of everyone here, for your address. I feel deeply and profoundly the pleasure you have given me in reading the paper you have read, though I could not hear it, and I want to thank you very sincerely on behalf of everyone present.

Mr. W. R. DAVIES, C.B. (Principal Assistant Secretary, Technical and Continuation Schools, Board of Education), in seconding the vote of thanks, said: There is very little I need say after Lord Leverhulme has spoken with such humour and felicity. He is a fellow-townsmen of mine, and I am very proud of the fact. I assume you asked me to speak because the Department I belong to is supposed to know all about all kinds of students. If it were a matter of engineering, I should say we do really know a great deal about it; though I do not think I should speak so confidently on

the point to them as I am speaking before architects. As to architecture, I think we are inclined to say ditto to the Royal Institute. I hope that is a very proper attitude. The last time I had the pleasure of being present at this ceremony I think we had a little affair of business with the Architectural Association, and I suppose a good number of the students here to-night must be connected with that school. I feel that the association, if I may so put it, between students of the great profession of architecture and the active leaders in that profession is a very charming thing. I regard it as a model arrangement between the heads of the profession and those who aspire to enter it; and I think students must profit by the humorous and shrewd advice which was contained in the President's address.

The PRESIDENT, in reply: Lord Leverhulme has to-night let us into an important secret: that if a client is dissatisfied, he should double the order, and then treble it, so as to give the architect a chance of bringing the whole of the houses within a stipulated average price. But such clients are very rare, and the architect is not likely to fare so well elsewhere.

Review of the Work Submitted for the Prizes and Studentships, 1922-23

BY HENRY V. ASHLEY [F.].

[Read before the Royal Institute of British Architects, Monday, 5 February 1923.]

IT is at the invitation of the President that I am here to review the work submitted this year for the prizes and studentships of the Royal Institute. It is a privilege I very much appreciate; it is also a responsibility which I fully realise.

Reviewing the work as a whole, I believe it to be better both in quantity and quality than that of last year. That is all to the good, but I feel sure the competitions are by no means as keenly contested as in pre-war days; I have had the records from 1899 to 1913 looked up, and I find the average number of competitors for the Pugin to be ten, compared with two this year; and for the Tite eighteen, compared with nine. This falling-off cannot by any means be attributed entirely to the war—there are plenty of students and plenty of schools—it is due, I believe, in quite a large measure, to these very schools and their students working in water-tight compartments. They have their own prizes and studentships, and in many cases the intensive

training leaves the students too tired, or with neither time nor inclination, for independent study or research. It is a great pity. I sometimes think that students do not fully realise the opportunities presented to them in the prizes and studentships of the Royal Institute, for, consider: in the first place, they have the opportunity of paying homage to those architects now passed away, who in their time achieved great things and who founded these studentships for the advancement of architecture; in the second place, they have the opportunity of carrying on the traditions of those elder students, the practising architects of to-day, who have always desired to uphold the dignity and high importance of this Institute; and, lastly, by their own studies and researches, they have the opportunity of proving to the world how good a thing it is to advance the profession and practice of architecture. Added to all this there is the chance of travel and study at home and abroad.

In general terms, the studentships may be taken in

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two divisions, namely, those involving study of and research into existing building work, and those involving the creation of something—or design. In the former we count the Measured Drawings, the Pugin and the Owen Jones; in the latter, the Tite, the Saxon Snell and Grissell Prizes, with the Institute Silver Medal for Essays, also, I suppose, the Henry Jarvis Studentships. I like to separate them in this way because the student by his research learns how the builders of all ages built, how they laid out, devised, constructed and embellished their buildings. Only by this means can the student hope to succeed in originating and creating buildings of his own; and the studentships offer him excellent opportunities; there are few obstructive conditions, no difficult clients, and the awards are made by sympathetic Juries. With the verdicts of the Juries this year I can honestly say I agree; although I have arrived at the result somewhat more laboriously than they—I envy some of them their quick grasp of a problem. I think I may say that I have carefully examined every drawing exhibited, and in doing so I have endeavoured always to put myself in the position of each competitor, and to be in full sympathy with the student. At the same time I must criticise impartially, give praise where praise is due, and not veil too heavily the defects as I see them. I feel sure this is the spirit in which students would expect me to deal with their efforts.

Taking, therefore, research work first, we have the Silver Medal for Measured Drawings; for which there has been submitted perhaps as fine a set of drawings as has ever been sent in, comprising a complete survey of a group of classic buildings, the Campidoglio at Rome. There is little but praise due for the work exhibited; it is a most careful study in plan, elevation and section, and the drawings, eight strainers in all, are most beautifully rendered in a very intelligible manner, and the sketches and measurements taken on the spot are all just what they should be. I particularly appreciate the half-inch scale and full-size details of the museum section, these are line drawings, with no colour, and full of dimensions—they strike you at once as measured drawings, while the others, at first sight, might be designs for the Tite or Soane. I must also mention the drawing of the Lateral Pavilion by Vignola. This is a charming little work, and the drawing is beautifully composed.

I commend these drawings to the students as examples of what architectural drawings should be, and I congratulate the author, Mr. Dougill, whose work so entirely merits the medal.

"Diligente" submits drawings of the Palazzo Horne, at Florence, by San Gallo—originally belonging to the Corsi and Alberti Families, it was bought and restored by Herbert P. Horne, and presented by him to the City of Florence in 1916. It is a most refreshing piece of building, quaint, and full of things which interest; the

drawings are not as carefully executed as they might be, and the building, in reality, is more attractive than it appears in this survey. The author's measured sketches and plottings on the site lack method, and are rather scrappy—he has not given to the study of this delightful building all the care and attention that it deserved.

The Chapel of St. Anselm in Chester Cathedral is the subject chosen by "Cheddar," exhibiting Late Gothic work with fan vaulting, also some Jacobean work. It was a difficult subject to measure, and I think the author would have been better advised to make half-inch scale drawings instead of quarter-inch; this latter is too small to indicate the work in sufficient detail. The sketches and measurements taken on the spot are rough and not very complete, and the full-size details are meagre. "Cheddar," however, has taken pains, and has succeeded in producing a very carefully worked out set of small-scale drawings, cleanly drawn, but a little hard and unsympathetic.

There are only two entries for the Pugin Studentship, and when we remember the keen competition there used to be in past years, when twelve or fifteen competitors was not an unusual number, the falling-off to-day is very disappointing. Possibly students have not had sufficient time since the war to get together sufficient material, nevertheless I am sure I am voicing the opinion of many architects when I say how greatly it is hoped future years will bring back the old-time rivalry and reinstate the Pugin Studentship in its rightful place.

From this I do not wish the winner, Mr. Thorpe, to think that, because he has not encountered much competition, he has not well earned the distinction. I can assure him that the standard he has reached is a high one, and that his drawings are excellent.

Mr. Thorpe has made a very complete study of a delightful mediæval church, All Saints, Bolton Percy, near York, one-eighth-inch scale drawings with half-inch and full-size details, the whole cleanly and sympathetically drawn, and precisely in the manner in which such a survey should be developed. He has also a beautiful drawing of the eighteenth century pulpit in the same church. The measured drawings of the monument in York Minster are not so interesting, but the detail of the wrought-iron gates to the choir aisle is beautifully rendered; while the drawings of the lectern and pulpit in All Saints Pavement, York, are fine studies, well indicated. Finally, I think a few freehand sketches would have been a valuable addition to the exhibit. I can assure Mr. Thorpe that had there been more competitors, he would still have been a very serious antagonist. I congratulate him.

Mr. Heritage is not a serious rival. He loses interest too quickly and gets tired; his work at Winchelsea is a difficult though interesting study. His small-scale drawings are not too good; the tracery particularly

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is not well indicated, but the inch-scale details of the east and south windows are more successful; the drawings of the three tombs in the Farncomb Chapel have mastered him instead of his mastering them. The freehand sketches at Hastings and Winchelsea are too hastily done and lack crispness and finish, and I must say that the ink outlines on the pencil drawings detract from their value.

Mr. Heritage must not be discouraged, he must try again, but I would recommend him to take more trouble, select less ambitious subjects at first, and go steadily through with them to completion.

The Owen Jones Studentship has been awarded to Mr. C. H. Filley, the only competitor, but he well merits the prize. The chief work exhibited is Indian decoration, and the drawings show good technique of water colour.

It is just a point whether the time spent on so much repetition work is worth while. The colouring of the Turkish tiles is very good, showing the quality of the materials and doubtless faithful to the original, but the study, Della Robbia, is weak and unconvincing. The drawing of the ceiling decoration suffers somewhat from lack of study of Western art, which is likely due to over-concentration on Eastern work.

Coming now to my second division of the work, I will commence with the Tite Prize.

Nine designs have been received for this prize, the subject being an Italian Embassy in a European capital, on a site of 150 feet frontage, 450 feet deep, and situated on the side of a hill sloping at an angle of 15 degrees upwards from the street, which is 30 feet wide. The principal requirements also are carefully laid down in the programme; from these it may be inferred that the jury had in mind the Genoese Palace as a basis for the design of the Embassy, but this does not seem to have influenced certain of the competitors.

Many difficult problems are involved, and no single competitor has mastered all of them. The grand approach and staircase up to the reception suite, the reception suite itself, the management of the entrances at the street level, and the position of the Ambassador's quarters are crucial tests in stately planning and composition.

The designs of "Tugga," "Poffergy" and "Tishy" most nearly approach the right solution. The authors, I think, must have often met and reported progress during the preparation of their drawings, or possibly they have studied the same books, since the similarity of plan cannot be accidental. Mr. J. C. Shepherd, the author of "Tugga," who receives the prize, has well earned the distinction; his planning generally, the layout of the principal floor, his arrangements of the Ambassador's quarters with its terrace garden, and his treatment of the longitudinal section, are all very ably devised and logically worked out. The elevation, however, is, I think, not so successful; the reception suite coming out to the front might have been more marked

in his design, and the treatment of the windows in the top storey with the main cornice and parapet over is not very satisfactory. Mr. Shepherd might with advantage have spent more time in perfecting the external treatment of his otherwise brilliant scheme. The drawings are finely executed, but I should like to have seen a little more care bestowed on the drawing of the elevation; its colouring, too, is not very successful.

Miss Helen Chambers, under the pseudonym "Poffergy," obtains and entirely merits the Honourable Mention, for a fine design, excellently drawn. The planning of the reception suite entirely at the back, facing the terrace gardens, with the Ambassador's principal rooms on the same floor and on the street front is very satisfactory, and equal to the winner's; but the approach and grand staircase is not so good—to have to climb 46 feet from the street level to the reception suite is too much, unless perchance by a moving staircase, which it is evident would not be a very dignified method. The entrances, however, are well managed, and one is able to drive in, round and out without having to pass through the garage, which point is a minor defect in the winning design.

In many respects I think "Poffergy's" elevation is more effectively treated than the winner's, it is more on traditional and Italian lines, and it expresses the plan. I congratulate Miss Chambers on her success; she is the first lady student who has so nearly carried off one of the big prizes of the Institute. In connection with this, I have the President's permission to say that a client of mine who is very interested in the education of women has only recently given me some fine architectural books for presentation to a lady student, and these I shall have pleasure in handing to Miss Chambers in due course, if she will be pleased to accept them.

The design submitted by "Tishy" is treated very similarly to the other two, but in this case the ball-room is placed on the street front, this is perhaps not such a good arrangement, and the treatment at each end of the ball-room is not very convincing. The plan, however, does allow of a better suite of rooms on the garden front with a real reception room, whereas in the selected designs a wide corridor at the head of the grand staircase has to serve for reception, which is not so good. The Ambassador's quarters are schemed somewhat similarly to the winner's, but they are no less than 74 feet above street level. The elevation well expresses the planning, and is ably designed in a traditional manner; it is well drawn and beautifully coloured, as also are his other drawings.

I commend the author for his effort; that he will succeed in due time I have no doubt; for my own part, I should have recommended him for an Honourable Mention also. This is my only little difference with the Jury.

The design by "Geneva" is a most interesting

REVIEW OF THE WORK SUBMITTED FOR PRIZES

study—I am rather fascinated by it—true, it is not quite in the Italian manner in elevational treatment, but the longitudinal section and the elevation exhibit, in a marked degree, much refinement and ability; the planning, however, is too loose and not suited to the solution of the problem. The drawings are finely executed and coloured, particularly the section and elevation, but it is an unnecessary labour to repeat the garden layout on the upper-floor plans; I would rather the author had given the time thus expended to greater study of the general scheme, and particularly to the design of entrances from the street.

The design submitted by "B. O." is cleverly drawn, and the section is interesting, and has good points. The elevation, however, is too sumptuous, without character of the right sort; the planning also is not sound, too much room being taken up by the principal staircase, resulting in the reception suite being cut in half, as it were.

"Utinam" has not sufficient knowledge of his subject. His design is by no means on traditional lines, and is immature; he takes up far too much room with the vestibules, which are some 30 feet by 40 feet in size, and this involves him in no end of trouble; his elevation is far from right. "Utinam" must study good examples much more closely than he has done.

The design submitted by "Sebastian" does not look like an Italian Embassy; it is not sufficiently worked out, particularly the gardens. "Sebastian" has some hard work ahead to ensure success.

The same criticism applies to the designs submitted by "Blue Square" and "European." "Blue Square's" planning is feeble; his elevation, however, is restrained, but rather dull. "European" regards the whole problem as a domestic one almost entirely; he has no reception suite and no grand staircase. The whole is uninteresting, though quite nicely drawn.

Before concluding my criticism of the Tite Prize designs, there are two points to which I must draw attention: first, with regard to the setting back of the building from the frontage-line as shown by many of the competitors. It is obvious, of course, why this has been done (blame the motor car), but I do not think it was anticipated by the jury who set the problem, and I suggest that sufficient consideration has not been given to the disastrous effect which might result to the building if adjoining properties were brought right out to the front. It cannot be taken for granted that these buildings would be set back also, for then the whole problem is altered, which postulates a building in a street 30 feet wide. My second point takes notice of the section of the terrace garden. Many of the competitors have not realised, I think, that, looking from the reception rooms or the gardens immediately outside, observers could not see these terrace gardens and cascades, their vision being impeded by the building up

of the terrace at its starting point; the height of this starting point has not been properly related to the building itself—it is a rather serious defect, for the vista right up the gardens should be most impressive.

The subject of the Henry Saxon Snell Prize is a maternity home and infant welfare centre in an industrial-class district. The site is 200 feet square, with streets on the north and south sides. For a working-class district this site appears to be unduly large; as a result, there are somewhat fanciful lay-outs and gardens, even pergolas.

Of the eight schemes submitted, undoubtedly the one by Mr. Theakston, under the motto "Ad Rem," has been quite properly placed first. It is very skilfully planned, with due regard to economy, and if built, a really workable scheme would result. The elevations, too, are quiet and restrained, but a little dull. His planning of the wards, labour rooms, etc., all on the ground floor, and the nurses' and staff quarters on the first floor is good, and the whole is well lighted, and in the main well ventilated. The welfare centre is well placed and planned with the resident nursery for children on the floor over. The isolation quarters in a separate block are also well planned, but I do not see the necessity for the emergency isolation.

The defects, such as they are, arise from cutting down the accommodation in some of the working parts: for example, the laundry and kitchen are too small, and the service from the latter to the wards is not good; some of the windows on the east and west sides of the building are too near the boundary for an industrial district; finally, the labour rooms are somewhat small. The author cannot make up his mind on the debatable point whether or not sanitary fittings shall be in the operating room or in a room opening off same: he provides for both methods. I do not wish to magnify the defects—all of them could easily be rectified without vitally affecting the otherwise excellent scheme. I am sure the author has a real grip of his subject.

The scheme sent in by "Crane" has rightly, I think, received an Honourable Mention. Seemingly, the main thing disregarded in his design is economy; the area covered by his building is, I should think, double that of the winner. The scheme, however, is excellently worked out, and the plans beautifully drawn, but the elevations lack interest. His wards are scattered on two floors, and his kitchen and laundry over-extensive. He has also a wrong idea of the number of staff required. He provides 30 for a Home for 20 beds. Nevertheless, I think, the author, Mr. A. J. Brown, has made a careful study of the problem.

The design submitted by Mr. Norburn under the pseudonym "Roona" has also received an Honourable Mention. For my own part, I think "Roona" needs to study his subject much more than he has done; his planning is careless and without motive or inspiration;

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the corridors are badly lighted and ventilated; his isolation is inadequate, and he has a night nursery for twenty babies close to the wards, a truly awful thought to any matron. His method of ventilating the lobbies to the sanitary offices is a desperate effort, and would be regrettably non-effective. The kitchen and laundry are, however, more suited to the requirements than in the case of the former designs, and the elevations, too, are satisfactory and pleasing. I recommend "Roona" to try again, and in doing so to study his subject more, and to take more trouble with his drawings. He has ability, but he must learn that to succeed is not always a simple matter.

The design submitted by "Solomon" does not exhibit all the wisdom of his namesake; his scheme does not comply with the conditions; there are very serious defects in planning, and his elevations do not help him. Moreover, "Solomon" should learn to draw better.

"Ursa" has not sufficiently absorbed the problem, his block plan looks like an ill-planned hospital, and his detail planning does not improve matters. He should have studied this particular type of building far more than he has done, and not spent so long a time on drainage schemes.

There are three further schemes submitted, but I do not think these can be considered useful contributions to knowledge, and therefore they do not claim further comment.

There are four entries for the Grissell Prize, the subject for which is a design for a warehouse with certain requirements.

The scheme prepared by Mr. P. Morrey under the motto "Rivet" has rightly gained the first place. It is a good example of what a warehouse should be. His steel framework and the details thereof look right, although the beams seem rather closely spaced; his calculations, too, are voluminous, and I am credibly informed that they are sound and properly worked out. I only quarrel with "Rivet's" staircase windows on the front elevation; he has not mastered an oft-recurring difficulty, whilst his planning of the sanitary accommodation is very defective, in fact each of the competitors in this competition has made inadequate sanitary provision for his scheme, such as would not pass any authority.

"Bluzz" submits a scheme on somewhat similar lines to "Rivet," but his constructional details are not so well worked out. The elevations are quiet and restrained and suited to their purpose. The arrangements for loading and unloading are not so good as the winner's, and there is no entrance other than for warehousemen.

The design submitted under motto of a red Fleur-de-Lys is not good, particularly the elevations, and the whole is drawn in a slovenly manner. The author gets into difficulties with his planning by placing his

entrances both for people and for goods on the front; he has, however, worked out full framing plans, details and calculations.

"Syntithemi" has far too much architecture of an indifferent kind in his elevations, both back and front—bay windows with battlements do not suggest a warehouse. He has worked hard at the problem, but one entrance for every kind of traffic is not sufficient. The detail drawings of the steelwork are very carefully drawn, and his calculations very complete.

My study of the schemes submitted for both the Saxon Snell and the Grissell Prizes compels me to suggest that future competitors should endeavour to produce from their plans buildings of greater architectural merit. Hospitals or warehouses need not, from the nature of the case, be ugly; they can be expressed in well-balanced and well-proportioned structures in the same way as in other buildings of a different order.

I now come to the Essay Prize. Mr. Lionel Budden, under the pseudonym "Aristus," is the winner of the Medal for a thesis entitled, "An Introduction to the Theory of Architecture," and I notice that the jury recommend its publication; they also state that they have been impressed both by the deep research and originality shown, and by its cleverness of thought and expression.

I have read the essay carefully and with much enjoyment, and I concur entirely with the jury's opinion of Mr. Budden's work. Generally he takes Croce's doctrine and deduces from it a theory of art in general and architecture in particular; thus Croce's "intuition" becomes the architect's conception or idea, and his "externalisation" becomes the architect's expression signifying the process of external design.

The author does not regard his essay as an elaborated philosophy of architecture, but simply as an introduction. Its aim has been, he says, to offer a fresh path of approach to the subject, and to suggest a new treatment of it, and in a very able manner does he succeed in his programme. The whole essay is most revealing, and in every way most readable; it should without doubt be the forerunner of a more elaborated philosophy of architecture.

The essay submitted under the pseudonym "Poffery," entitled "Flats," is a complete review of the subject commencing with the earliest records of flats in 500 B.C. to the present time, concluding with the opinion that it is improbable that the "Mansions of the Blessed" are actually blocks of flats. It is a comprehensive essay dealing with flats in this country, in America and on the Continent, from the point of view of the architect and the building speculator. The author only digresses when venturing on the housing question generally. The plans given by way of illustration are not sufficient in number, and there are no

VOTE OF THANKS

original designs embodying the points made. The style is easy and unassuming, but certain slangy expressions might with advantage have been omitted.

The essay on the Architectural Problem of the Shops deals with stores in this country only; it shows original research and design of considerable merit, and the illustrations are well chosen. The author's own drawings of a large store building are good and well worked out. The essay is clearly written, but a little tedious.

"The Study of Sound in its Relation to the Design of Buildings" is the title of the essay submitted under the motto "Korea." It is a broad survey of the whole subject of acoustics, somewhat sketchily treated, but with some wondrous equations and coefficients which must surely solve all our difficulties in this matter. The essay is clearly arranged and written, but with little original research. There is no index and no bibliography.

The essay sent in under the motto "Petivi" has for its subject the life story of Pirro Ligorio, who has been aptly described as "the most genial artist of his time"—like so many of his contemporaries of the sixteenth century he was artist, architect, engineer and antiquary. It is a biographical more than an analytical study of this architect's work, and describes in a most interesting and scholarly way the intrigues of the time and how Ligorio combated them, and the illustrations indicate his skill in construction and capacity in original design. The essay, though probably too slight for the Essay Medal, is well written, and I feel sure that the author knows all that is to be known about this genial artist.

I have purposely left the essays to the last, since, in a somewhat unusual way, I purpose finishing my review of the students' work by quoting from Mr. Budden's very inspiring essay, as follows:—

"The early training of an architect should involve purely formal studies in grammatical and stylistic composition, he should be drilled in the correct use of technical forms. When he really has something to express, he will then, as a result of his practice in abstract composition, be able to state it clearly and with precision.

"If the architect will sedulously occupy himself in seeing that his work faithfully and fully represents his conception, truth and beauty may safely be left to look after themselves. The purpose of the architect is to make his audience see what he has seen—the vision can only be captured when it is wholly released."

It is for us—architects and students—to see that the vision is worthy of our high calling.

The President, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Ashley, said that they had listened that evening to one of the most scholarly addresses on the students' drawings that had ever been given at the Institute, and that the speaker had covered the whole field with a truly scientific insight.

Self-expression in Art

BY C. F. A. VOYSEY.

Although reading the newspapers as little as possible, I am yet impressed by the frequency with which we meet the statement that "An artist must express himself." Everytime it irritates, because so mixed are the meanings attaching to such a message. The writers who mean by it to emphasize the importance of absolute sincerity, are of course right: but to the young mind it may mean egotism, which is the most poisonous perversion of individuality. The very wish to express oneself is corrupting to the soul and intoxicating to personal vanity. "For he that would save his soul must lose it." The true and healthy sense in which the message "express thyself" may be wholesome and beneficial, is when it is the outcome of our true love and admiration for fundamental ideas and principles. If in our work we express a love of truth, by avoiding shams and showing frankness and sincerity, we are not expressing ourselves, strictly speaking, but the ideas and sentiments common to all good men. The same may be said of other qualities like dignity, grace, restraint, simplicity or—magnificence and generous plenty. All these are proper objects of thought common to mankind, and the fit subjects of architectural expression: and to the properly tuned mind, of infinitely greater importance than any personal tastes or predilections.

Personal tastes and preferences should not be allowed to obtrude themselves when we are striving to build for another. Let us coax and persuade a client if we can, win his affections for that which is noble and of good report, but do not let us spend his money on our own personal fads. Such sinking of ourselves need not mean any sacrifice of self-respect. It is not doing anything of which we can possibly feel ashamed; it is the recognition of our position as servants.

If, however, we are asked to produce anything which conscience pronounces to be wrong. If we are asked for something we think ugly, or in any way harmful, then in very faithfulness to fundamental general principles we must refuse emphatically and be prepared to suffer for such refusal, if need be. Such individual faithfulness for conscience sake is not egotism. A little clear thinking will show us how full all architectural expression is of the general thought and feeling of the country and time of its production, and how all great periods show fundamental and leading principles in thoughts and feelings; while many personal eccentricities and private tastes and fancies spring up like fungi and die in a day, proving how little value there is in that which is purely our own, and that only noble thoughts, ideas, and feelings, to which we all can aspire are of lasting value. It is a sad pity that March Phillips is not more often read and taught in the schools. For he elaborately shows, what I have been trying, but feebly, to express.

The Preservation from Decay of Stone on Buildings*

BY PROFESSOR A. P. LAURIE.

THERE has been a great deal of discussion lately about the question of stone decay, more especially in connection with ancient monuments. The problem is not the same as that of preserving a new stone. If we take a fresh piece of stone from the quarry and use it in a building, and if it is a stone which is very easily attacked, like some of our freestones, we might treat it with certain preservatives, and so increase its life, and in the same way we might increase the life of sound stone in old buildings; but the problem of the decayed stone in old buildings is very much more difficult. We have there the problem not only of preserving from future decay, but also of reconstructing the stone itself and of replacing the lost cementing material by some new cementing material, and in many cases the building is a ruin exposed to weather on every side. That is, obviously, a much more difficult problem. There was a time—I am afraid a time that is not altogether past—when our ancient monuments suffered terribly from restoration. Old carved work and old mouldings were not only cut out and replaced, often very carelessly and with unsuitable material, but, in addition, when the stone preserver came along he first began to scrub with a wire brush and take off everything he could, and when he got down to the raw stone put on his preservative. This is much the same problem as the one discussed in my lecture on the restoration and preservation of pictures. It is not altogether a scientific problem, it is to a certain extent an æsthetic problem as well.

There are also obvious limits to what a stone preservative can do. For instance, if there are fissures in the stone, and the surface is treated with preservative, the stone will come away in lumps presently because of the cracks behind; or if the stone is falsely bedded in the first instance it will come away in sheets of considerable thickness.

The problem, therefore, is not a problem for the chemist alone, but for the architect, too, for he has to decide what can be done to preserve what remains of artistic value. He has to say to the chemist: "Will you tell me to what extent you can, by the soaking in of solution, prevent further decay and reconstruct the stone and replace the natural cement that is lost?" The chemist having told him exactly how far he can go, the architect must consider each case on its merits to decide whether he is going to replace, whether he is going to fill up the cracks through which water may penetrate, or whether he is going to treat with preservative and so get his result. There is, however, one

treatment which is quite unjustifiable—the treatment with the wire brush. Far better leave the carving and mouldings alone.

One thing to which not very much attention has been given yet, and much more ought to be given, is the question of the filling up of cracks. More study ought to be devoted to the filling-up of fine cracks so as to prevent water getting in and disintegrating the stone.

I have had the advantage, thanks to the kindness of the Office of Works, of experimenting for some years on Scottish buildings and on some English buildings. In giving me that facility they laid down a condition which I think is absolutely sound from the point of view of experimental research. They said: "You are to take the very worst decayed surfaces you can find, and you are not even to brush them with an ordinary brush, but take them as you find them, and either by spraying or splashing, treat them with preservative, and see whether you can reconstruct the most rotten stone surfaces that we can find for you." That is a perfectly right and wise principle to go upon, because what we want to find out from an experimental point of view is whether we can devise any preservative that is of any use at all, and if it is useful, what the limits of its usefulness are. The extreme conditions under which we have been working in Scotland are quite sound from the point of view of experimental results. In the case of Elgin the experiments I have made have been on absolutely rotten surfaces. We have to begin there and work back from that and see where our preservative will help us. The general principles to be followed are that it is an architect's problem how far replacement is necessary; it is a chemist's problem to tell him how far he can go with his preservative; but it is quite right in tackling an experimental problem that the very worst cases should be given to the chemist in the first instance. I need hardly say that never under any circumstances will the Office of Works permit the use of the wire brush.

Another point I might mention here is that it is absolutely essential, if we are to make any progress at all, that photographs as near full size as possible should be taken at different stages. In Elgin we have experimented with one group of mouldings, leaving the other set untreated; we have taken photographs, and every summer we have compared the photographs to find out exactly what has happened. One of the reasons why more progress has not been made in this matter is that, in the past, whole surfaces have been treated. If you treat small portions at a time, leaving other portions untouched, and take photographs as you go along, it is possible to obtain results that may lead to definite conclusions.

* A Lecture delivered by Professor Laurie at the Royal Academy on 22 November 1922.

THE PRESERVATION FROM DECAY OF STONE ON BUILDINGS

We will now discuss very shortly the main causes of stone decay. We have, in the first place, the effect of wind. Wind, carrying sand, acts as a sand-blast and wears away the stone. Some remarkable examples of that can be seen in the Tower of London. We have heat and cold, expansion and contraction of the stone. In the case of granite, where you have the expansion with change of temperature of different kinds of closely packed crystals with different co-efficients of expansion, fine openings are formed through which moisture and injurious gases can enter. There is also the action of ice. You know, of course, that when water freezes it expands. If, therefore, we have a stone saturated with water, and it is caught by the frost, the ice expands and breaks up the stone. The main disintegrating agent that we have in a country like this for the breaking down of rocks is the action of frost. The extraordinary thing to me is that frost does not do more damage. I have discussed the possible reasons for this elsewhere. Another disintegrating agency is the carbonic acid gas in the air. If we pass carbonic acid gas through lime water we get a precipitate of what is known as carbonate of lime. Carbonate of lime is the main constituent of limestone, and is in a great many cases the binding material. It is a very common binding material for sandstone in a crystalline form known as calcite. If we put some carbonate of lime into a vessel suspended in distilled water, and pass carbonic acid gas through it, we notice that the solution gradually clears. This is due to the fact that carbonate of lime is soluble in an excess of carbonic acid gas. There is carbonic acid gas in rain water. It is present in the air, and this solution of carbonic acid gas acts upon limestone and gradually dissolves it. These are the main natural causes we have of stone decay.

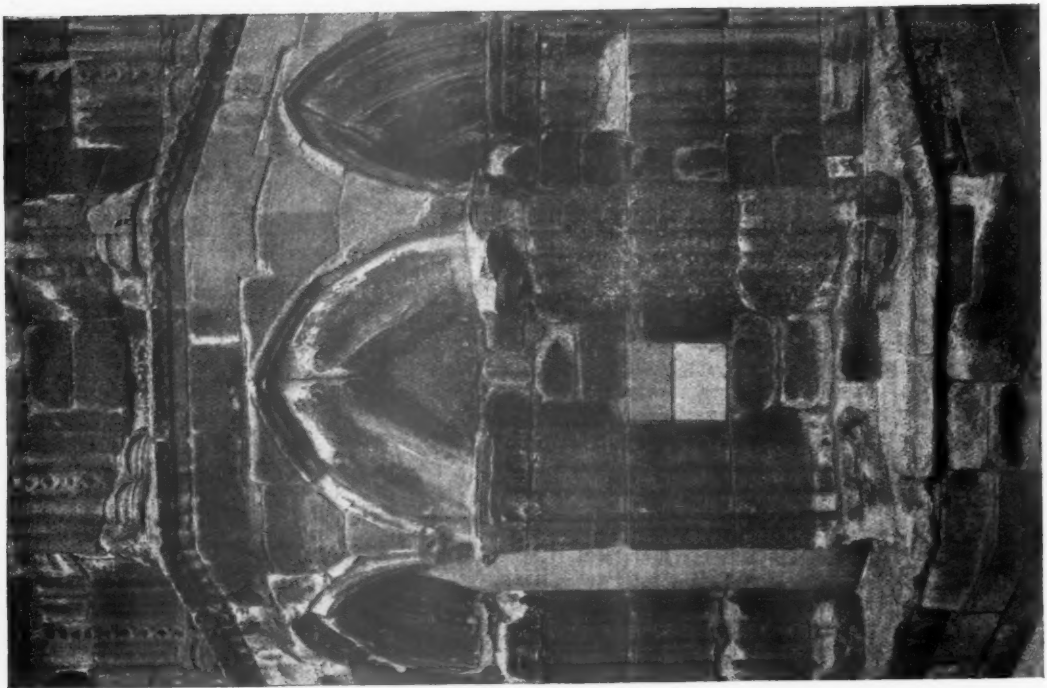
That is, unfortunately, not all that we have to suffer from under modern conditions. The coal that we burn, owing to the sulphur it contains, pours into the air sulphur compounds, sulphurous acid, sulphuric acid, and ammonia sulphate. These powerful agents act upon carbonate of lime. If you put an acid into a vessel containing suspended carbonate of lime the whole liquid will at once clear, showing the solubility of carbonate of lime in the acid. These acids, then, dissolve carbonate of lime—*i.e.*, they will dissolve limestone. If they did that only it would not matter so much, but the result of the action of these sulphur gases on the limestone is to form a compound known as gypsum or sulphate of lime, which is the same thing, which, when heated, forms plaster of Paris. This sulphate of lime crystallises, and in crystallising exercises tremendous pressure and breaks up the stone. As an experiment I took a little block of stone $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches each way, which I first of all saturated with a certain solution, and then produced the conditions to get an expansion of the infiltrated substance comparable with

the effects produced by the crystallising of sulphate of lime. The stone was cut clean in half by the pressure exerted inside and at the same time great flakes were thrown off all round the edge. Yet the solution had made no chemical attack on the stone. Much more harm may be done in this way than by mere dissolving of the surface.

The problem of sandstone and the problem of limestone are somewhat different, and while we have every intermediate condition between Caen limestone—such as was largely used in Westminster Abbey—to Craigleith sandstone, we can, roughly speaking, divide stones into two divisions, sandstone and limestone. We can divide sandstone roughly into two other divisions: sandstones which have carbonate of lime as their cementing material, and sandstones which have an insoluble cement such as silica. There are other cementing agents, but these are the most important for our present purpose. Sandstone consists of particles of quartz which are practically indestructible; consequently, if it comes to pieces, it comes to pieces because the cement which holds it together has perished. If the cement is a silica cement we have a very durable sandstone, because it will not, at any rate, be attacked chemically, though it may be mechanically. In some cases it is not so durable as it should be because there are not enough connecting points. The Elgin stone is a stone with a silica cement, and therefore is not easily attacked chemically; but as the connecting points are very few it is a stone which yields readily to mechanical attack, such as frost and the infiltration and crystallisation of sulphate of lime.

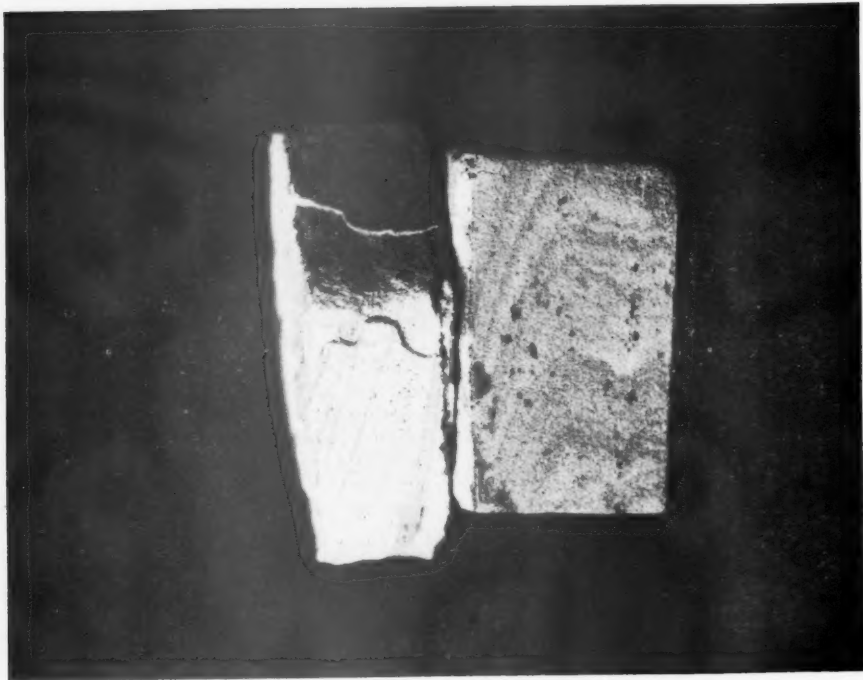
That gives a rough classification of limestones and sandstones. In the case of the sandstone we have already a material on which the chemist can build, while in limestone we are dealing with a material in which the stopping of stone decay is very much more difficult. It is also known that some limestones are much more durable than others for reasons which are, I think, to some extent still obscure.

Let us go on to the question of stone preservatives. I think I am right in saying that in the last twenty or thirty years no really new and original material for dealing with the question of stone decay has been suggested. I have examined large numbers of the proposed materials, which can be divided roughly into three groups. There are, first of all, the silicates and silico-fluorides. The principle upon which they act is that lime in combination with the silicates gives an insoluble precipitate. If you take some lime water, for instance, and add a little silicate of soda to it, a white precipitate is at once thrown down. Silico-fluorides are even better from a chemical point of view for the formation of insoluble compounds of lime. If, then, you take a limestone or if you take sandstone that contains calcite you can convert a part of it into an



PORTION OF ELGIN CATHEDRAL.

The arches show the destruction caused by a thin coating of cement.
The columns show the surfaces which are crumbling into loose sand.



STONE SPLIT IN HALF AND SCALING

Result of 48 hours' treatment with an expanding substance with no chemical action.



STONE IN TINTERN ABBEY COVERED WITH LOOSE SCALES
One half cemented together with silicon ether.



DESTRUCTIVE ACTION OF A LIME WASH TEARING AWAY THE STONE
The untreated portions are fairly sound, showing ordinary surface decay

insoluble substance, hardening the stone to a certain depth and partially converting it into an insoluble material. At the time when the House of Commons was built the chemist spoke highly of silicates. He said you only had to treat the stone with silicate of soda and you could make it permanent. The results were most disappointing, and silicate of soda disappeared from the list. Then silico-fluorides came into favour. They have a certain value for the hardening of certain surfaces, and we have the high authority of Professor Desch for saying that the silico-fluorides harden the surface and lengthen the life of stone, but I have found them of little value for re-cementing rotten sandstones and limestones. We have a whole variety of mixtures of paraffin wax, of oil, of resin, and insoluble soaps of which the permutations are endless, but as far as my own tests go I have not found any of these solutions satisfactory from the point of view of reconstructing a decaying stone surface. These various things are sold as proprietary articles, and one of the first conditions of any scientific research should be that the composition of the proprietary article should be made known before any experiments are made with it. Of course, in a great many cases we can analyse them, but there is no reason why we should be asked to do that. None of these I have tried really solved the problem sufficiently satisfactorily to justify us in saying that we can treat the rotten stone of an old building and preserve it so that it will stand for the next two or three hundred years.

The experiments that I made myself on stone preservatives soon made me realise a very great danger which may result from their application. The first question the chemist has to ask himself is, not whether the stone preservative is going to make the stone last longer, but whether the stone preservative is going to destroy the stone. The question we have to ask, after soaking the stone with a preservative, is whether the solution as it dries is going to leave the preservative in the pores of the stone or is going to deposit itself near the surface. Every solution has to be tested from that point of view. In a great many cases it comes to the surface. What is going to happen? The preservative will not prevent water getting in. Water gets in and dissolves some of the substance of the stone, and crystals are formed behind the layer of preservative because the water containing dissolved material cannot get out to crystallise on the surface. The result is that the stone comes off in flakes. You have to be very careful that your stone preservative is not going to do more harm than good. In the same way you can get a water-lock owing to a preservative which keeps the stone saturated with water, so that it breaks up from the action of frost. It is for that reason that the architect always quite wisely says the stone ought to be able to breathe.

An architect can easily test for himself the value of a

preservative for re-cementing rotten stone. Take a little sand and make a little sand-brick with the preservative and allow it to dry, and see whether it is going to dry hard. If your brick dries hard just drill a little hole with the point of a knife, and see whether the sand pours out from the inside. If the distribution of the preservative has been right, the brick should stick together all through, though it will never be quite so hard inside as at the surface. If the preservative is coming to the outside as it dries, you have only to make a little hole and you will be able to pour out the sand. If it stands these tests, soak the brick in water, and see whether you have got a chemical binding there or not, and if you find it stands these three very simple tests, it may be worth while giving it a further trial outside. Besides sand, you can try some of the stone you wish to preserve crushed into a fine powder and mixed with the preservative.

We have been experimenting for some five or six years now in Scotland with thin solutions of resin, and have obtained some interesting results. The mistake made in the application of resin in the past has been that the solutions have been too strong, and, consequently, they have penetrated a very little way and produced scaling. The solutions should not be stronger than 15 per cent. to 5 per cent. of common resin in toluol; the denser the stone the thinner the solution. Penetration is also helped by treating the stone first with the pure solvent, and then following up with the resin solution. If the stone is shiny after treatment sponge over with the solvent, and if darkened sponge over with lime water. In the case of close-grained sandstone, excellent results have been obtained so far, but in the case of limestone sufficient penetration has not been obtained, and in the case of very coarse-grained open rotten sandstone surfaces, while the stone no longer comes away in large pieces after a winter's weathering, a slow surface decay goes on owing to the destruction of the resin itself by the action of the weather. In some cases the surfaces have actually hardened with time. In no case has any injury been done or scaling caused. The penetration aimed at was about one inch, and the amount of resin applied sufficient to close about 20 per cent. of the pores so as to enable the stone to breathe. For interiors where the stone is sufficiently porous it should be very successful.

I should like to say a word or two about lime-washing, which is now very popular. It seems to me that in a great many cases the idea of lime-washing is sound. You protect the surface of the stone with a coat of lime-wash, and it may very well preserve the stone. On the whole, I think there is a great deal of evidence to show that lime-wash was used in mediæval times, and that lime-washed buildings have stood the test of time very well. Of course, some people object to it on æsthetic grounds—they don't like the look of a lime-washed

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building. My feeling is that if it really can be proved that lime-wash is going to preserve, even though it does not reconstruct, then we must put any question of æsthetic feeling on one side. The main thing we have to do is to save the ancient monuments. I was at Tintern Abbey this summer, and heard some people say how beautiful it was with the ivy growing all over it, and what a pity it was that it had been removed. Well, of course, if you want to preserve Tintern Abbey you must take off the ivy.

There is only one thing I want to say about lime-wash, and that is a word of warning. I saw a case of lime-washing the other day which was done in 1914, and in which, apparently, the effect had been to tear the stone all to pieces. Part of a moulding had been treated with lime-wash, and had fallen to pieces, while the untreated portion of the moulding was all right. There it was, not only scaling off, but taking one-eighth to one-quarter of an inch of the stone with it. It is quite possible for lime-wash to act as a destroyer, and I think the explanation is this. The building was a ruin of porous sandstone, and had only been lime-washed round the moulding. It was exposed to rain and weather, the lime-wash did not cover the whole of it, and the result was that there was plenty of room for water to soak in; the water formed a water-lock behind the lime-wash, and there had been freezing, probably, and breaking-up of the stone. If you take a building with a straight wall and a roof on it, lime-wash could, I believe, be applied without the slightest danger. If you have a pinnacle of stone exposed in all directions you must consider whether you are going to do more harm than good by locking in water. This, again, will depend on the porosity of the stone. Lime-wash, while preserving close-grained limestone, may well destroy a porous sandstone. Therefore, I think that lime-wash, though there is a great deal to be said for it, needs careful investigation. You must be careful not to let water in to form a water-lock behind the lime-wash.

In cases such as roofed buildings where lime-wash can be safely used, and where the stone is sufficiently porous to absorb weak solutions of resin, I believe something permanent could be done by soaking the rotten surfaces first with a weak resin solution, and then lime-washing the whole. I prefer for lime-wash a mixture of lime and salt to a mixture of lime and tallow. Projecting cornices should either be flashed with lead on the top, or if this is too expensive, thoroughly saturated with a weak solution of resin.

I have recently been experimenting on a very interesting solution which has never been tried before as a preservative: silicon ether. It is a compound which can be dissolved in alcohol, and on exposure to air and moisture it is decomposed and deposits thin layers of hydrated silica, cementing the particles of stone together. The experiments I am making with this new material on rotten sandstone surfaces look very hopeful, and I

ought to be able to come to a definite conclusion soon as to its value. Experiments on rotten limestones have not turned out so successfully, mainly owing to the difficulty in penetration. I shall make a point of letting architects know how this new substance stands the weather through the columns of the R.I.B.A. JOURNAL, and if it survives the tests under the difficult conditions at Elgin and Tintern Abbey, I shall be glad to send small quantities to architects who would like to try it.

I fear I have rather uttered words of warning than given a solution of this most difficult problem, but little has been done in the way of systematic experiments in the past, and the chemist to-day is on his guard against making the mistakes of the chemist in the past, and assuming from successful laboratory experiments that he is going to get equally good results outside. The whole situation is gradually clearing, a great deal of rubbish has been removed, and I have no doubt that the time is approaching when the chemist will be able to tell the architect exactly what he can and cannot do, and the architect will frame his policy accordingly.

Correspondence

R.I.B.A. CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND PRACTICE.

Guildhall, E.C.2.

24 January 1923.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—As questions have been asked with reference to the omission of the Code from the *Kalendar*, your readers might like to know the facts. It has been assumed that the Code printed in the *Kalendar* for 1920-21 was omitted from the present *Kalendar* by order of the present Council. That is not so; it was omitted by order of the late Council.

When the draft of the Code was submitted to the Practice Standing Committee in 1920, it passed resolutions on 7 April and 28 April that "the publication of any such document would not be in the interests of the Institute" and "they fear it would be liable to be made use of adversely to Architects in Courts of Law," but the Council of that date did not accept the advice of the Committee.

In October of last year the Practice Standing Committee submitted a resolution to the Council as follows:

"The Committee note with satisfaction the decision of the Council not to publish the existing Code in the *Kalendar* for the coming year. It is the opinion of the Committee that the Code of Professional Conduct and Practice as at present published should not again be printed in the *Kalendar*. Further, the Council are recommended to rescind the present Code as an official document of the R.I.B.A."

The Council accepted the advice and resolved accordingly.

At the present moment the Practice Standing Com-

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mittee is considering whether a Code should be printed in the *Kalendar*, and, if so, what that Code should be.

It is interesting to note that as far back as 1916 the Practice Standing Committee resolved that the previous Code should be omitted from the *Kalendar*; the resolution was as follows:—

"The Committee are of opinion that, with a view to strengthening the power of the Council to deal with all matters of Professional Conduct, it would be advisable to omit the contents of page 70 of the *Kalendar* from all future publications."

Yours faithfully, SYDNEY PERKS [F].

CHARTER: COUNCIL: OR ELECTION: WHICH?

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

SIR,—The present Council has proved by its own official action that a "Resolution of the Royal Institute" is superior in authority to the unauthorised proposals of a very small group of members.

The Charter with its safeguards therefore governs both the acts and the policy of the Council. It protects the Institute against any attempt by a Council or a Committee to wreck its provisions. Members can, if they will, defend their rights, in spite of election successes, in a Corporate Body which is not a political "machine." A Council is elected not for political, but for business purposes. It has to manage affairs; and it cannot over-ride either the Bye-laws, which govern its powers, or the Charter, by which both the Council and the Bye-Laws are made. The Council has no authority but by "Resolution of the Royal Institute," and such a resolution it must obey whatever it thinks an election may command.

The present Council has refused to act on a "Resolution of the Royal Institute" on the false assumption that a Council election, wrongly based on a question of policy, relieves it from the responsibility of obedience to such a Resolution. It cannot plead any such excuse for so great a dereliction of duty.

The Resolution of March 1920 still stands, and is operative, for the attempt to reverse it in February 1922 failed. The Unification and Registration Committee set up as a result of the 1920 Resolution, is consequently still in existence, in spite of the present Council's attempt to "dissolve" it in July last. That this is so both official correspondence and the late lamented Registration Bill prove clearly. For the information of those who may not realise this let me briefly quote some official documents.

On 25 July 1922, I was informed:—"This Committee was appointed by the Council and those of its members who represented other bodies were nominated by those bodies at the request of the Council, and were duly appointed by the Council." On 5 July 1922 the present Council resolved, notwithstanding the "unanimous" "Resolution of the Royal Institute" of March 1920, that the Unification and Registration Committee

"should be dissolved" and, "that each member" should have "his appointment cancelled." But in April 1920 the various Societies were invited by the Council to appoint, themselves, their own representatives. This they did. In my own case on 29 April 1920 I was invited by the Council, acting as an accredited agent, to join the Committee "subject to the subsequent confirmation of the appointment by the Allied Societies concerned" in Australia. On 28 June 1920 I was informed, officially, that "the Unification Committee has now been completed by the appointment of representatives by the various Bodies concerned, and by the election of representatives by the Licentiates of the Royal Institute and by the unattached Architects." On 26 July 1921 further information from the Unification Committee was available. It indicated that four resolutions had been "passed" by the Unification Committee, which, as I have shown, and will further show, was not a Committee of the R.I.B.A. Those resolutions decided "that the principle of Scheme A," and not any scheme at all, was adopted. And "that the matter be referred to the Sub-Committee to consider details and report to the Main Committee."

This information also indicated that the R.I.B.A. Council "approved" these resolutions and proceeded to deal with the business involved. And, as the third resolution recommended the R.I.B.A. Council to revise its Charter and Bye-Laws, time for negotiation was required. But—and note how that Council respected the Charter!—when this "Preliminary work" was done "the Council of the R.I.B.A." would be "in a position to submit to the General Body a complete scheme" and "when this scheme has been adopted by the General Bodies of the R.I.B.A. and the Society of Architects, a meeting of the Unification Sub-Committee will then be called to carry on the work."

The members who form the majority of the present Council "cancelled" the appointment of members of a Committee whom they did not appoint, and, in their late Bill, they admitted they had no power, and no right, to cancel any such appointments; for the Bill they approved, and disapproved within a week, as well as the Bill they approved and the General Body disapproved at once, both agreed on this one point, if on no others. Both Bills admitted the principle, and nobody could, or would, deny the wisdom, the inalienable right, of the proviso, that all members appointed to a Board, a Tribunal, or a Committee, by Bodies other than the R.I.B.A., should be removed, or replaced, only by the Body appointing them, and by no other.

The Unification Committee can therefore presumably carry on its work. And it is to be hoped that the R.I.B.A. Council will co-operate by reappointing its own representatives and that the President will again be free to preside over the deliberations of a Committee "representing the whole profession."—Yours truly,

HUBERT C. CORLETTE [F].

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Registration of Architects

DISCUSSION ON DRAFT BILL.

A Special General Meeting was held on Monday, 29 January 1923, at 5 p.m., for the purpose of considering the Draft Bill for the Registration of Architects, which had been prepared by the Registration Committee and approved by the Council, Mr. A. W. S. Cross, Vice-President, in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN: My first duty is to call upon the Secretary to read the notice convening the meeting, which was published in the JOURNAL of 13 January last, and the notice which was afterwards sent out on 22 January.

The SECRETARY read the notices.

The CHAIRMAN: I have to remind any Licentiates present that, under the provisions of the Charter of 1909, they are entitled to take part in the discussion, but not to vote.

Mr. KEEN: I have a letter from the President, who asked me to read it to the meeting:

GENTLEMEN,—In expressing regret for my absence from Monday's meeting, I should explain that this is due in the first instance to an important business engagement in the North, which was made long before the date of the Institute meeting was fixed. My first wish to attempt to cancel this engagement was set aside on remembering that it has been the practice, where any special business has been particularly in the hands of one of the Vice-Presidents, that that gentleman should be in control of the meeting that deals with it.

There is one piece of information which I ought to give to the meeting. The Council some weeks ago asked me to see Lord Crawford on the subject of the possibility of his introducing the Bill, if passed by the General Body, into the House of Lords. An interview at the moment being impossible to his Lordship, I corresponded with him and received a very courteous reply, relative to the advantages of introducing a measure of this kind in the House of Commons rather than the House of Lords, on the grounds chiefly of delay.

Lord Crawford, besides writing this letter, was good enough to give me an interview, and in it expressed a hint that it would be very unwise for the Institute to introduce a Bill into either House for which it was not sure of having the fairly unanimous support of its own members, and at least a reasonable assurance of support from other Societies representing architecture; otherwise the Bill might be defeated in Parliament, which in his opinion would be unfortunate. I owe it to Lord Crawford's very sincere interest in the Institute to make this practical suggestion of his known to our members.

I feel that I need not accuse myself of taking sides in the present discussion if I add to these remarks my own hope that, whether the Bill is passed by the General Body or not, the fullest precautions may be taken on the lines which Lord Crawford suggests before the Bill is allowed to begin its Parliamentary course towards success or towards a failure which might hurt our prestige.

PAUL WATERHOUSE,
President.

The SECRETARY read the following letters from Mr. J. A. Gotch and Mr. Charles B. Flockton.

DEAR MACALISTER,—Absence from England will, unfortunately, prevent my attending the General Meeting at which the Draft Registration Bill will be considered. May I, therefore, be allowed briefly to support the proposal that before any Registration Bill is submitted to Parliament a further endeavour should be made to achieve what is called the Unification of the profession.

It needs no argument to establish the proposition that could

an agreed scheme of Unification be carried, the chances of obtaining Registration would be much greater than they are now, when it is difficult for action to be taken by one body without offending the susceptibilities of others, or coming into conflict with their interests.

In connection with this point it should be borne in mind that the Allied Societies both at home and in the Dominions have now made it clear that they are unanimous in the view that Unification should precede Registration, and although the result of the last Council election gives colour to the assumption that the Institute as a whole does not share that view, yet, now that this opinion has been so definitely and widely expressed, would it not be wise to pay attention to it in the interests of the movement we all support?

I venture to suggest that a basis for Unification might be found in adopting the qualifications laid down as necessary for Registration in the Draft Bill itself.

Without Unification, which implies the recognition of the Institute as the governing body of the profession, and also implies the inclusion within its ranks of those who are considered worthy of being registered, Registration would be an actual menace to the Institute, for the great bulk of architects would be content to be known simply as registered architects, and would not trouble themselves to seek the distinction of belonging to the Institute.

To press the present Bill under present conditions is to run the grave risk of its being thrown out; and if thrown out, the future prospects of obtaining Registration would be seriously prejudiced.—Yours faithfully,

J. A. GOTCH.

DEAR MR. MACALISTER,—I very greatly regret that it will be quite impossible for me to attend the meeting on the 29th.

I trust that my absence will not be construed as an indication that I am not in favour of the Bill or that I am in any way in disagreement with the other members of the Registration Subcommittee or of the main Committee.—Yours truly,
CHAS. B. FLOCKTON.

There is also a letter from Professor C. H. Reilly, of Liverpool, which deals entirely with one of the later clauses in the Bill; therefore perhaps it will be more convenient if it is read when we reach that point?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes. Notices of motion or amendment have been received from the following:

Mr. G. A. T. Middleton [A.], Major H. C. Corlette [F.], Professor A. Beresford Pite [F.], Mr. H. M. de Colleville [A.], Mr. Charles A. Daubney [F.], Mr. Charles McLachlan [A.], Mr. Bernard Dicksee [F.], Messrs. Arthur Crow [F.] and Baxter Greig [A.] (representing the District Surveyors' Association).

Mr. Perks will take charge of the Bill this evening, and he will move its adoption, subject to any amendments which may be carried.

All matters relative to procedure during the course of this afternoon's debate will be declared carried, if passed by the usual majority; but as regards the Bill itself, including its clauses, and the deliberation on its different parts, clause by clause, in each case a two-thirds majority will be required. I think it better to give this ruling in advance, because it prevents disappointment and heart-burning at the end of the meeting.

I call upon Mr. Perks to propose the adoption of the Bill, which, at the present stage, as you know, is simply a Council measure, but which, if carried this evening, will be the Institute measure.

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Mr. SYDNEY PERKS [F.] : I propose, with your permission, to move that we adopt the Bill generally, subject to the consideration of the clauses. Last February there was a debate, which had generally to do with unification, and the resolution submitted was not carried by a two-thirds majority. During that debate I, and some others, mentioned that if a Bill were promoted, it might include clauses providing for all architects to become members of this Institute. You will remember our Unification Committee wanted to admit "all the architects" before we did anything else; that idea was defeated, as you know, at the last election. When we came to consider, in Committee, the form of a Bill, we went through all the Bills we could get hold of, and we were, naturally, very anxious to promote a Bill which would give satisfaction generally, and which would raise as little opposition as possible. We were guided, to a certain extent, by the Unification Sub-Committee, which recommended the Dentists Act as a model. We considered it with other Acts, and we have drafted a Bill—it is the one you have—which we hope will give very little offence to anybody. We do not provide in that Bill for any man on the Register becoming a member of this Institute. In that, we follow what has been done before. I was of opinion that no Registration Bill had ever been promoted which provided for the members of a certain profession becoming members of the leading Society in that profession, but I wanted corroboration, and to-day I have received a letter from Messrs. Sherwood, the Parliamentary Agents, in which they say: "In reply to your letter, we think you may safely state that no Registration Act has been passed whereby all the members of the profession became members of the particular Society of that profession. It certainly is not so as regards the medical, legal and dental professions." Therefore in proposing to set up an independent Register we are following precedent, and are not interfering with the status of this or any other Society. When we discussed the clauses, one of the first things we did was to ask Mr. Sadgrove, representing the Society of Architects, to see us. We had a very friendly afternoon, and we told him what we proposed. That was, I think, in July or August. We discussed the whole thing. I think the Society of Architects has written a letter saying they are not prepared to support our Bill; they do not say they object to it, but whatever their difficulties are, I hope we shall be able to meet them. There is one thing I want to impress upon you. It has often been said that if we have any opposition to our Bill, it cannot go through Parliament. That statement is absolutely unfounded on fact. It is absolutely contrary to the history of registration of other bodies. Take the last Bill that passed—the Dentists'. There was considerable opposition among the dentists to registration, but their Registration Act was passed. The nurses wanted registration, and there was simply enormous opposition to their getting it; but they did get it. And there was the case of the veterinary surgeons before that. I was talking to the Secretary to-day. He said there had been great opposition to veterinary surgeons getting registration. It took them 21 years, but they got it. So I want you to understand this: that, according to the history of these things, a Bill can succeed when it is opposed. This is a fact we must accept.

At a later stage we sent round a draft of the Bill to all the Allied Societies. We received replies and suggestions from the Allied Societies, and I think we may say that those suggestions have been embodied in the Bill; I cannot think of anything important which has not been embodied. We tabulated their suggestions, and took an average of what they wanted. The Allied Societies and their Presidents, of course, want the old unification scheme; they want their men to get into this Institute by another way than by its examinations. My sympathies are very much with the Presidents as representatives of the Allied Societies for this reason: that they represent a body of men principally composed of gentlemen who do not belong to this Institute. Let me give you the official figures. They were calculated a little while ago by Mr. MacAlister, and give the numbers in

London and the numbers outside London. The total number in Allied Societies in Great Britain is 1,944. How many are members of this Institute? 716. There has been no opposition to the Bill except from our old unification friends. Suppose we had sat down and seen everybody, and said "We are going to promote a Bill; will you tell us what you want? We should like to agree with you, and with you, and with you," then the work might go on for ages. And it has been going on for ages. We have received letters from the Union of Architects' Assistants; they have sent in proposals; they want certain things. The Institution of Mechanical Engineers want certain things. That is the usual procedure in the case of Bills; you promote a Bill, and people say "I object to so and so." Then you have a Committee and meet them. If you cannot agree, you fight it out in the Committee Rooms of the House at Westminster. That is what I think we ought to do, to get at grips with this thing. We must find out where we stand, and the only way to do that is to go on with the Bill, see what opposition we shall get, and where it is coming from, and how we can meet it. The great opposition to the registration of architects is not coming from architects, but from the general public, and that is where we shall have the trouble. It may be that a lot of men will object in Parliament, saying "This is Trade Unionism and we will not have Trade Unionism," and other people may say "Why should architects have registration?" They may say "Architecture is an art, and no art can be registered; the world can go on just as well if architects never get registration." Let the opposition come, and then let us meet it and discuss these things and try to settle them. If we cannot settle them, we must fight them out at Westminster. Does any man here suppose we should get this Bill through at once? As I have said, the veterinary surgeons were 21 years; they started in 1860, and they succeeded in 1881. And they did not quarrel among themselves. I really think we should go ahead. We have never promoted a Bill, never gone as far as this with a Bill, and we ought to go on. If we are beaten, we shall know exactly where we are and what the opposition is.

Mr. C. H. HEATHCOTE [F.], Vice-President: I have great pleasure in formally seconding the motion.

The CHAIRMAN: We have had several amendments put before us. The one from Mr. Middleton came first, and I will ask you, Mr. Dawber, to defer yours.

Mr. G. A. T. MIDDLETON [A.] : I consider myself to be something near being the father of the Registration movement, and consequently I am in favour of Registration, and I agree very largely indeed with what the mover of this motion has put before us. But I have been forty years on this, working steadily for Registration; and if it means a delay of one more year only to get a really good Bill, I should prefer to wait. It seems to me there are certain serious defects in this measure, defects which call for further detailed consideration, which the Committee will be better able to give after they have seen and thought out the various amendments which they have received this evening, and after the discussion which is to take place now. The major defects, as I consider them, I shall lay before you as best I can. I have some knowledge of Architects' Registration Bills. I myself produced the first rough draft, about the year 1886. I was on the Committee which had to deal with the Bill which reached the Second Reading in 1886; it was proposed by this Institute. I was upon the subsequently greatly improved Bill of 1889, and upon the subsequent Bills slowly hammered out from that time onwards for over twenty years. We met people again and again, exactly in the way in which Mr. Perks now suggests, and by giving way here, and sustaining our position there, we gradually got what was a fairly satisfactory measure. There have been two Boards set up by this Bill, a Board and a Tribunal, besides the Institute. The Tribunal, as given here, is practically a Committee of the Board. I can see no reason for two bodies; it is only multiplying difficulties and machinery. One body could do the whole work by itself

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and by committees. I think there is nobody on the Tribunal who is not on the Board. That is the first defect. Also the Board particularly is over-large. Forty-seven is a very large body, and it is a difficult number to gather together to work for the administration of an Act of Parliament—not for the carrying on of the administration of this Institute; simply to administer an Act. You only need a comparatively small body of, as it were, directors of a company to administer and work the Act steadily. The Board is over-dominated by this Institute in that 25 of the 47 are, directly or indirectly, nominated by the Institute. I admit that the Institute should have a considerable voice, but on this Board the members can be turned out at the will of the Council; they are annually elected. The Institute Council is also subject to annual election, and sometimes there is almost entirely a new Council. A Board to administer an Act requires a much more settled policy than that: it requires to go on steadily year after year, with very little change of personnel. A five years' tenure of office would be none too long for such a Board as is contemplated, a comparatively small and well-chosen Board.

Mr. A. O. COLLARD [F.]: May I rise to a point of order? What is the precise amendment before the meeting?

The CHAIRMAN: I shall read it. "That the Draft Registration Bill be referred back to the Council for both general and detailed reconsideration before being again submitted to a general meeting."

Mr. MIDDLETON: The Board is only consultative. The domination comes from the Council of this Institute; it is not a nice position in which to place a representative of the Crown. It is the Crown we have to think of as represented there. All the work comes mainly on your Council, mainly on practising architects, just the men who already are fully burdened with the management of the affairs of this Institute. In many cases you cut out the retired men by insisting on practising architects; yet the retired men have most time, and in most cases have had most experience of Board work. The point is that the Board, however small a one, preferably should be a paid Board, because there will be much work for it to do. Then another important thing. For the person registered under this Act there is only the name of architect, the words "architectural" and "architecture," not the practice, not the full thing. It begins with a sham Board, which can be overruled by the Council, and ends with sham registration. It is easy to put these things right. The Bill, as it stands, would kill the Society and the Institute.

The CHAIRMAN: Is there a seconder?

Mr. BERNARD DICKSEE [F.]: As my motion is practically the same as Mr. Middleton's, although I look upon the matter from a different standpoint, I think I can second it. Mr. Middleton attacked it from the standpoint of administration; I attack it from the point of view of the details of the measure itself. In the first instance, no single member of this Institute, or anybody else, is entitled absolutely to registration under this Bill, and that, to my mind, is a very serious defect. I have been a Fellow of this Institute for I do not know how many years, and I am entitled to be registered if I like; but nobody, under this Bill, has the power to register me. I am a District Surveyor. Nearly 30 years ago I agreed to give up my practice on taking office as a District Surveyor, and, as I am not an architect in practice, I should be ruled out by the first clause. That clause, dealing with people who have a right to be admitted, is very badly conceived, and the fact that the Bill as published in the JOURNAL is different from what it is now, after it has been submitted to the Parliamentary Agents, shows that the Bill has been very carelessly considered and drawn up. Nearly all through this Bill you will see that the authority who registers has the right to refuse any such application as mine. There is no right for one of us to register, and that is the most glaring defect in this Bill. There is a large number of items of the

same character. I shall be, and always have been, opposed to Registration, because I think it is a mad scheme; it cannot possibly give any material advantage to the Institute; it will not prevent anybody carrying on the same work still, under another name. I second the motion of Mr. Middleton.

Professor BERESFORD PITE [F.]: May I support Mr. Middleton? I have no desire to prolong the discussion, but I congratulate Mr. Perks on the skill with which he skated over very thin ice, and on his endeavour to steer between very prominent rocks. I think the real point is that in this matter, whatever may be said about the difficulties of unification, it is absurd, if not completely and morally wrong, for a proposal of this sort, which covers everybody who carries the name "architect" and who practises the art of architecture, to be put forward without securing that large unanimity of support which Lord Crawford mentioned in his letter. If the Council can assure us that the Allied Societies, which are an integral part of this Institute, support this Bill; if the Council can assure us that the Architectural Societies with whom they have been in conference can support it, and if they are assured that it carries with it that unanimity which is necessary, we can go forward. Otherwise I think there is nothing for this meeting to do but to support Mr. Middleton's proposal, that the Bill goes back to the Council until that unanimity has been arrived at. I do not propose to deal with the Bill; in my opinion, it neither succeeds satisfactorily in registering those who ought to be registered nor defines those qualifications satisfactorily which we feel to be necessary. There are very grave blemishes in it. One is the real difficulty I have, as a layman, in understanding the *modus operandi* of the Bill. Mr. Middleton has touched upon those points, and I need not enlarge upon them. I urge this meeting to accept Mr. Middleton's amendment by the two-thirds majority, to affirm that this Bill must go back to the Council until they have secured the consent of the Allied Societies, the consent of the other Societies which are not allied, and an assurance, or a sufficient conviction, that they are carrying with them the opinion of those architects who are not even members of any one of the Societies.

Mr. GILLBEE SCOTT [F.]: Mr. Middleton's chief objection seems to be that we have here a Board and a Tribunal; he also seems to object very much to the number on the Board. I think that, in order to get this Bill through, it is necessary to disarm hostility. It is for this reason that these persons should be nominated by the Privy Council, the Board of Trade, and so on; and it is necessary also that all other professional Societies should be properly and fully represented on the Board. It is only a matter of detail if the numbers are to be cut down. But, in spite of what Mr. Middleton said about the Institute being predominant, it is exactly what we want. Who should predominate in a Registration Act but the Institute? It represents practically, as regards numbers, not only the great majority of the architects of Great Britain, but of those in the British Empire; we have members all over the Empire, and we have made a very great effort to see that the Institute does get a strong representation upon the Board. The Memorandum which is to come in front of this Bill, in the last two or three lines, defines the purpose of the Board: "The Board will determine the standard of examinations, and the Tribunal will determine who, subject to the provisions of the Bill, are proper persons to be enrolled in the Register." If the Council were to attempt to determine that, the public might say: "You are making it too close." The Tribunal is nominated for a special purpose: to decide, until the Act gets into full force and working order—that is, four years—who are to go upon the Register. After four years the Tribunal will cease to exist. Then Mr. Middleton made a remark about the Board and the nomination of it. Each person has his own nominations, and the Board cannot turn out other members of the Board, but the Privy Council can each year nominate its own member, or renominate its own member; and the same with the University and

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Institute members. With regard to unanimity, the only unanimity we can expect at this moment, or that we can act upon, is the extraordinary unanimity which was shown at the last Election. The whole thing was candidly put before all the members of the Institute. There was a dead line of cleavage; members were asked to approve of this principle or that, and what they did approve of was the principle we are considering now. It was the desire of those who sent us here to get on with the Bill, and we have got on with it, and that is the reason we are meeting you to-night. What is the use of letting the thing drift? It is not that we do not wish to carry everybody with us; we have consulted, to a certain extent, Allied Societies; we wish to consult them and to hear all that they have to say, and all that the Society of Architects has to say; and if further improvements can be introduced into the Bill, there need be no fear that they will be ruled out. There will be plenty of time to alter anything. Our sole object is to get the best Bill we can; and if anybody can suggest any further improvement in detail, we shall be delighted to accept it. With regard to Mr. Dicksee's remark, he is the last person we would wish to see left out, or other men in his position.

Mr. DICKSEE: Architectural Professors are left out too.

A MEMBER: On a point of order; if we vote on this amendment and it is carried, does it rule out Mr. Guy Dawber's?

The CHAIRMAN: The proper procedure is this: if Mr. Middleton's amendment is passed, it must be put as a substantive motion, and then Mr. Dawber can move his amendment on that. That is the procedure we shall adopt.

Mr. H. A. WELCH [A.]: If Mr. Middleton's amendment is defeated, Mr. Dawber's will follow as a matter of course? Before a vote is taken on this, may I ask one or two questions? I ask whether or not the Council has received the views upon this Bill of Parliamentary Agents or Parliamentary solicitors?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mr. WELCH: And you discussed it as a Council?

The CHAIRMAN: To the best of my belief, yes.

Mr. WELCH: I put it to you that is not a fact. Whether we vote for this amendment or against it, we want to be clear as to what we are voting for: and if a report has been received on this measure, has the Council considered it?

The CHAIRMAN: I say it is not a fact that the Council has not considered the Registration Committee's report.

Mr. WELCH: But this is the Council's report, and it affects the Council whether Parliamentary Agents' opinion has been received. I submit the Council has never received that report. As one of the members who will vote on this amendment, I ask the nature of that report.

Mr. PERKS: The Parliamentary Agents made no report; they drew up the Bill.

Mr. DICKSEE: As it appeared in the JOURNAL; that was before the Parliamentary Agents saw it, and they had only a few days.

Major H. C. CORLETTE [F.]: We had a Bill sent to us the other day, in the JOURNAL, and it was approved by the Council. The question just asked is answered by the second Bill, which was approved by the Parliamentary Agents; that is, the first Bill was disapproved by them.

The CHAIRMAN: Not on any question of principle: they suggested some improvements in detail.

Major CORLETTE: If that Bill is approved by the Council, I should like to say something on Mr. Middleton's amendment. I do not think this Bill should be referred back to the Council; in my view it is very much a question whether the Council has any power at all to bring this Bill before the meeting. The question in my mind is whether the Charter or the election of Council governs this Institute. Under the Charter, so far as I understand it, a resolution by the Royal Institute is binding on the Council. Can you show me, from the Charter or the Bye-laws, that it is not?

Mr. PERKS: Can you show me that it is?

Major CORLETTE: I refer Mr. Perks to the Charter, in which it says that a resolution carried at a special general meeting is a resolution of the Royal Institute, and it is a stronger thing, and a much more governing thing, than a resolution of the Council. Another point, with regard to election. Some members are under the impression that an election of Council has something to do with the policy of the Institute. I submit that the policy of the Institute is decided by a special general meeting at which that policy is considered. In 1920 the proposals as to policy were clearly put before it, and the question of policy submitted then was carried. The policy then agreed to was opposed by a certain number of members, and last February they brought in a proposal that it should be reversed. Their proposal was defeated, and therefore I submit that the policy decided in 1920 is the policy now before this Institute, and not the policy represented by the Registration Bill. I submit that the Council at the present time is running riot through the Charter. I suggest that Mr. Perks, when he quotes official figures, should quote them correctly. I also have a copy of the official figures, and that copy of the official figures, quoted officially by Mr. Perks, states that there are in London 414 Fellows, in the Provinces 430; Associates in London 723, in the Provinces 1,162. I do not want to misquote Mr. Perks, but I understood him to say there were about 700 members of the Institute in the Provinces.*

Mr. PERKS: On a point of order, you know you are drawing a red herring across the path; you know you are wrong.

Major CORLETTE: It is of the utmost importance that this question should not be referred to the Council again. I speak now not as a representative of Australia, but as an ordinary member of this Institute. I could, if I had time, say something on the subject of registration in Australia, where they have recently passed one Act. They passed another one earlier, and there is still another in the form of a Bill, which has not yet come before the Legislative Assembly. The principles involved in this Act are quite important. One member criticised the Board constitution. They are satisfied with a Board of eight. But the important thing in that Act is this: that it places the whole profession under a State Department, the members of the Board are paid by the State, and the Governor in Council can if desired decide practically the whole business of the Registration Scheme.

Major HARRY BARNES [F.]: On a point of order that has been raised, as to whether, in the event of this amendment being negatived, the amendment of Mr. Dawber can then be put, I think there are a great number of us who want to speak on this matter, but would prefer to speak on Mr. Dawber's amendment rather than on this. But I would draw your attention to the fact that this amendment is, that the draft Registration Bill be referred back to the Council for both general and detailed reconsideration. Are not these words "both general and detailed reconsideration" so wide that they will rule out Mr. Dawber's amendment, and in that case bring the whole discussion to an end? We want to safeguard against that. Can we have your assurance that, in the event of Mr. Middleton's amendment being lost, Mr. Dawber's amendment will be presented to us, and a discussion allowed to take place upon it?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, certainly.

*The official figures quoted by me are correct. Total Members: London 1,137, Provinces 1,592. Of these last 867 are members of Allied Societies and 725, apparently, are not.

The Licentiates, though not corporate members, deserve a little thought. There are, in London 382, in the Provinces 926; of the latter 338 are members of Allied Societies. A further consideration is this: Total Corporate Members, London 1,137, non-London 2,021; Licentiates, London 382, non-London 1,074—including Overseas. Grand total 4,614. Quoted from official figures December 1922.—H. C. C.

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Mr. PERCY THOMAS [F.] (President of the South Wales Institute of Architects): I want to know, and I think the whole of us would like a direct answer to the question, whether Messrs. Sherwood gave an opinion on the chances of this Bill becoming law, and whether we may have that opinion.

Mr. W. W. SCOTT-MONCRIEFF [F.]: I speak against Mr. Middleton's amendment, and I would remind everybody here that if that amendment is passed there will be great danger of the whole question of unification before registration being revived. If this Council has done nothing else, it has proved to the Institute that there is great doubt whether we shall get the Bill through or not, and therefore it is more than ever dangerous that we should go in for unification before we know if we shall get registration. If Mr. Middleton's amendment, or any other amendment, is passed, we must understand that we are dangerously near the line of the old question of unification before registration.

The CHAIRMAN: I shall take your vote on Mr. Middleton's amendment.

There voted in favour, 14.

The CHAIRMAN: The amendment is lost.

Mr. E. GUY DAWBER [F.]: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to go into detail over this Bill, but to speak of its broader principles. We have had a great deal of criticism on certain points in it, which I consider, at this stage, are only a waste of time. I should therefore like to propose the following amendment:

"That this Bill be not considered until the other Professional Societies and interests affected have been consulted and a general consensus of professional opinion obtained in favour of the Bill."

I am in favour of registration, but only if it is with the full support of the profession. The proposals now put forward, as I understand them, only represent the Council of the Institute; and, as far as I am aware, no really serious attempt has been made to obtain the support of the Allied Societies and that of other interested bodies, and of those two thousand architects at least who do not belong to the Institute but are members of various societies. You will remember, Sir, that on the 7th of February last year you yourself proposed a resolution in this room, "That this meeting is of opinion that the conditions for the unification of the profession should form part of a Registration Bill." Mr. Cross and his friends are now in a position to put forward a Registration Bill, but no attempt has been made to unify the profession, though I think it was quite clear from his resolution that he was aware that any Bill of this sort would be still-born. We in this room all know that without unification no Bill has a chance of passing into Law. Why, therefore, should we waste time and money over this Bill, when we see, by the discussion we have already had, that we are so very far from agreement? I understand that communications from the Society of Architects and from the Union of Professional Assistants have been received, stating that they are unable to support the Bill, and our members, I think, should know this, and exactly what those letters contain. The letter from the Union of Assistants has been published, but I should like to hear what the opinion was from the Society of Architects. In face of these expressions of opinion, not to mention that of the Allied Societies of Bristol, and, I think, Manchester, Norwich, and others, how can the Council persist in their contention that this Bill is a serious effort towards the desired object? I should like to ask if the Surveyors' Institution and the Institution of Civil Engineers have been consulted, and if so, what their opinion is. And I should like to repeat what Mr. Welch said, and ask if we may have the opinion of the Council's legal advisers as to the possibility of this Bill going through Parliament. Until we have absolute unity in our ranks, I think it is mere waste of time to proceed with a discussion of this Bill. I therefore beg to move the amendment that I have already read out.

Mr. JOSIAH GUNTON [F.]: I rise to second the motion.

I have been in practice forty years, and I have heard and thought of these schemes up till the present day, and I see no reason why we should have registration, or anything else; but as the general feeling seems to be that we should have registration, I support Mr. Dawber's amendment. I do not think it would be of the faintest use for the Institute to proceed with this Bill on the present lines. I am perforce in favour of registration, but certainly not until there is certain unification as well. In the House, Counsel on both sides fight the matter in a Bill, and until we are unanimous we shall not get it. We are riding for a fall. There are certain things behind this that we do not know and we want to know. What is the solicitors' and the agents' advice? We have heard nothing but a bald statement and no details. It would be much better to refer this matter back, at any rate until practical unanimity is obtained. I only second registration in view of the feeling there is, not that I favour anything at all—I am happy as we are; but I would not wish to go on with the Bill as it now stands.

Mr. HERBERT T. BUCKLAND [F.]: I think everyone ought to know that this Registration Bill has been discussed by the Allied Societies, and as I acted as Chairman of the Conference of Allied Societies' Presidents, which is held here four times a year, I may speak with some knowledge of the general opinion among Presidents of Allied Societies with regard to this Bill. When the Bill was sent to the Allied Societies for consideration, they all loyally considered it as a Bill, and they sent recommendations, which our Chairman assures us have been embodied in the Bill; but he did not say that they sent very strong recommendations to the effect that some measure of unification should precede any efforts with regard to the promotion of a Registration Bill in Parliament. It seems to me that it is only common sense to remove any obstacle before attempting to put the measure before Parliament. We have been told about the difficulties in the promotion of the Bills for Dentists, Veterinary Surgeons and Nurses, and that it is vital that the community should be protected and have skilled advice. And yet we architects, who cannot make the same claim, put forward a Bill without having first agreed to it among ourselves. I urge that the Council should consider whether it is not in the best interests of architects that they should attempt to get some sort of general support for their Bill before putting it forward. I support Mr. Welch and Mr. Thomas in asking for a straight reply to the very important question they asked: what are the prospects of this Bill going through? Have the Parliamentary agents given any opinion on that point? If the Chairman will give us that, I am sure we shall be very much happier.

A MEMBER: Can we have an answer to that at once?

The CHAIRMAN: When we first approached the Parliamentary Committee they expressed the opinion which we told the profession at once, that there was very little chance of their getting a Bill through Parliament.

Mr. FRANCIS JONES [F.] (President of the Manchester Society of Architects): I am bowed down with grief, as a member of one of the Allied Societies, to hear my friend and colleague on the Council, Mr. Perks, refer to the Allied Societies in slighting terms.

Mr. PERKS: I have never done that in my life.

Mr. FRANCIS JONES: Whether Mr. Perks's actual figures are correct I am not quite sure, but I have roughly added up the official figures, of which Mr. Perks also has had a copy, and I can only say that I do not get the same total as Mr. Perks does. I, personally, feel that I would rather have no registration at all than not have unanimity in the profession as a body. I appeal to everybody to support that view. We must be united in our own ranks, and if we are, then whether we get registration or not, we shall carry on to good effect. I take it that the object of registration is the betterment of the profession, the better education of the architectural student, and united efforts for better architecture in this country. I do not see that these results can possibly be obtained if we are divided amongst our-

selves. I appeal to everybody to support Mr. Dawber's amendment, and I hope that everybody will consider not themselves, but the future of the profession, and the good of the country.

Mr. E. P. WARREN [*F.*] (President of the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Architectural Association): I strongly support Mr. Dawber's amendment, but in doing so I would like to ask Mr. Perks a question. Mr. Perks spoke of the Allied Societies as wishing for the "old unification." May I ask what that is? We are waiting for a scheme, which was summarily dismissed almost as the first act of the new Council. There is no unification scheme which has been made public. My Allied Society—and I think I can speak for other Allied Societies—have no hostility to registration, but they think unification is the necessary corollary; that you cannot have one without the other; that you must first bring all Architectural Societies, Allied and others, into line upon this scheme before proceeding with a Bill. The first item in the Allied Societies scheme was a motion of reference to unification, and they had an indication that there was a pledge, that the terms of unification should be embodied in a Registration Bill. They expected such terms would be included, and they considered that that pledge was broken. They considered also that it was a great pity, and a contemptuous act on the part of the Council, to dismiss a Committee which the Institute had constituted and recognised, and on which many of their members were serving, without giving them an opportunity of making a report.

Major BARNES: We have a very clear issue to vote on now, and I hope we shall not confuse it. We are not asked to vote on the question as between unification and registration; that is not the motion which is before the meeting. What we are asked to vote on is simply this: whether we are going to make a further attempt to get some general consensus of opinion in the profession in favour of this Bill before we go on with it, or whether we are not. That is the simple question. It is not whether we are going in for unification or not, or whether we are in favour of registration. It is, are we going to try to unite the profession in favour of this Bill? Or are we going to proceed without making such an effort? I very much admired the dashing speech with which Mr. Perks introduced this Bill; he is prepared, evidently, to go on for 21 years, if necessary, to get it through. I should like, if possible, to shorten that period. I cannot understand why Mr. Perks, or anybody who wants this Bill, should be opposed to a little more time being taken before it is put to the House. Is it their opinion that the profession cannot be united on the Bill? If that is their opinion, that there is nothing that can be done or said which will unite the profession or produce a larger body of opinion in favour of the Bill, I do not think there is any question that they are justified in going on. But is that their position? I am sure it is not. "But," they say, "we shall have a better chance of uniting the profession if we go on at once than if we delay," and that, of course, is a very proper proposition to consider. All I will say with regard to that is this: that it was not my experience, brief as it was, that the chances of a Bill are improved after they get to the House if there is a substantial difference of opinion between large bodies in the profession. Mr. Perks brought some cases to help his argument. He spoke about the nurses who got their Bill, but Mr. Perks must know that that first Bill was hopelessly lost because the House resolved itself into a contest between two bodies in the nursing profession, and it was only after that Bill was lost, and after unity had been achieved outside, that they got a Bill through. With regard to the dentists, it was equally true that that Bill only got through because the Government took it up, because they had managed to get substantial unanimity in the dental world. What is the position with regard to this Bill? Mr. Perks himself tells us that we are going to get very considerable opposition from the public; what decision are we going to come to to meet that opposition if we show ourselves to be a divided profession? Mr. Perks's general position seems to be this: I don't know where the

batteries are, I don't know when they are going to open fire, but let us get out into the open, and then we shall find out. I think that line of argument might entitle Mr. Perks to be called the Rupert of debate; but what about the casualties? After all, this meeting testifies to what depth, and to what degree everybody present has got the interests first of all of the profession of architecture, and next of this Institute, at heart; and how will these suffer if we take rash and premature action? I can see a Bill of this sort coming before the House—I say nothing about the Bill itself, it would be outside the scope of this amendment to discuss that—I can see a Bill of this kind coming before the House of Commons, and I can see the opposition to it, which would be engineered in formidable quarters; and I can imagine any poor architect in the House endeavouring to support a Bill torn to rags by the opposition which could easily be brought against it. I think all these considerations do point to this: that the amendment which has been proposed by Mr. Guy Dawber is a very wise, temperate and judicious amendment. It does not ask this meeting to declare against Registration. What it does ask this meeting, and what it does ask the Council, is to make one more effort, to take a little more time, to try to get amongst our own people, the men who are practising the great profession of architecture, some substantial measure of unanimity and unification in support of a Registration Bill, and for that reason I have great pleasure in supporting the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN: Sir Aston Webb is here. He makes so few appearances now that I am sure you would like to hear him.

Sir ASTON WEBB, P.R.A.: I will not take up even the five minutes allotted to speakers. I should only like to say I most cordially support Mr. Guy Dawber's amendment. And I support it for this very simple reason: that it does seem to me to put the cart before the horse to say "Now pass this Bill, the draft which is going to the House, and when you have done that, discuss the issue." You must first discuss what is to be in the Bill before you can decide to send it to the House of Commons, and I hope that is what we shall do, and that is what I understand from Mr. Guy Dawber's amendment. I should have thought meetings of this Institute would have been held, more as friendly meetings, in which the general principles of the Bill would have been discussed, so that it could be found out whether architects in general were in favour of it. But to say "Send this Bill to the House of Commons, and we will talk about what is inside it afterwards," seems to me to be altogether wrong.

Mr. DELISSA JOSEPH [*F.*]: I should like you, before you give your vote, to try and recall dispassionately, the outline of the present situation, and the series of circumstances which have tended to bring us here. I can approach this subject without personal feeling; I am not one of the original members who favoured unification or registration. I studied the subject carefully before I allowed myself to be nominated for the Council. The purpose of this Bill should be clearly defined in our minds before we reject it or postpone its consideration. We should also study the history of the circumstances leading to its production. The story of the Unification and Registration Committee is already well known to most of you. That Committee produced what they do not regard as an interim report, but a clear statement of the policy they recommended for adoption, and I think I am right in quoting as the words of that recommendation, "That all architects should be admitted to the Institute as a preliminary step to the carrying through of unification." That recommendation of the Unification Committee was carried by the late Council, and it was not until that resolution was carried that architects awoke to the great danger in the course proposed. Those who awoke to it formed themselves into a so-called "Defence Committee," and formulated the grounds for their opposition to the proposition of the Unification Committee. The Defence Committee nominated a list for the Council elections last June, which they issued to

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the voters in the country, with a statement for unification and the grounds of their support of registration. They asked the electorate to decide definitely between the issue of unification and registration. The Registration Committee adopted a similar course, sending out a statement of their views to all the constituents. Therefore the position was this: A clear issue of principle was put before the constituents by the contending protagonists, and each group set forth their nominees. What was the result? By a vote, which I think I am right in saying was a record vote in the annals of this Institute, nearly the whole of the nominees of the Council and the vice-presidents put forward by the Registration group were returned, while very few of the old Council were re-elected. That was a clear mandate from the electorate to men who were sent by them to the Council, and to the vice-presidents, to ban unification and to pursue registration. What course did the Council take? What did they do the moment they found themselves returned by an overwhelming majority? They set to work to justify the pledge they had given in writing, that if they were returned to the Council they would devote themselves to the promotion of registration. They have, during all these months, persistently, without thought of the personal sacrifice or the time and energy involved, devoted themselves to this purpose, and have produced the draft of a Bill which, they believe, carries the different views of the constituents who sent them to the Council in order to formulate and carry through those views. No one would pretend that the document, as it is before us, is a perfect one; it must be subject to alteration and emendation; but the principle behind it is the one which has been established by the vote of the electorate which is behind this Council and behind this general meeting. The protagonists of unification, naturally disturbed, cried out at once for a postal vote, for a plebiscite. Nothing offensive is meant when I remind you how often that cry has been sent out in the larger world of politics by a disgruntled minority. If I carry my contention a point further, I say we asked for unanimity before we took steps towards registration. I submit that while human minds are as they are, unification is unattainable on any subject, and if we are to await unification, we shall never attain the unification demanded by many or the registration demanded by the majority. Therefore to ask us to postpone action in order to achieve unification first is to ask for the impossible. With regard to the risk of failure, the risk of every great movement in this country, and in every other country, of opposition and failure gives pertinacity and strength for a return to the attack. I hope we shall go forward with this Bill, even if we are met with strenuous opposition—that we shall go forward with it as a first step towards the attainment of a great public purpose. That purpose may be summarised in two words: first, to admit into the area of registration every practising architect, and when that has been done and the interval of four years has elapsed, to close the doors and make ourselves a closed profession into which only those can enter who have passed the statutory examination and test. I want, also, that we shall have the opportunity of protecting the public against the employment of the incompetent. The public has no guidance in this at present; a man may be a house agent and undertake architect's work. We want to make that impossible. By closing the profession and subsequently admitting only those who are entitled to practise by examination, the public shall have a true guide which they can use for their safety.

Mr. ALAN MUNBY [F.] (President of the York and East Yorkshire Architectural Society): You have asked for an opinion from the Allied Societies, and I come with the opinion of York members, who are prepared to support the Bill. It has been considered in great detail. We should have been given more detail and more time to discuss the measure, but, substantially, we support it. The whole Society practically places itself in my hands as to the direction they should take in voting. The general feeling is that provided the Council says that this

measure has been well thought out, and that it is likely to be fruitful in the solution of the problem, they are prepared to give their support to the measure.

Mr. FRANK WOODWARD [A.]: We have had an interesting exhibition of the difficulties of getting a Registration Bill through; we have had an even more interesting illustration of the difficulties of getting unification in the profession itself. Had we proceeded to unification as outlined about a year ago, the scheme would have been opposed by those who were returned by the electorate to the Council in opposition to unification. Therefore it seems to me that before you can get unification as a measure, you have to get unification of the profession. You apparently all wish for registration as such, therefore I appeal to you to forget, for the moment, whether you want unification first, or afterwards, and to give your best endeavours to helping us to mould this Bill into such a form that it will be acceptable to the majority.

Mr. PERKS: I have very little more to say. Mr. Warren said he did not know what the scheme of unification was. If Mr. Warren will look into the JOURNAL of the 6th of May last year, he will find the answer. The most convincing speech this evening in favour of proceeding with this Bill has been the one made by Major Barnes. If anything were wanted to convince me that we should go on with the Bill, it would be supplied by Major Barnes's speech. He tells us how persistent the dentists were; Parliament would not hear them first of all; but, with enormous perseverance, they persisted. The dentists had no unification, as you would call it. I have it on the authority of the Parliamentary agents that no Act of Parliament has ever been passed which admitted the members of any profession into the chief society. If we get registration we get unification. And in the case of the nurses, look at the opposition there was. Nobody thought we should get this through in one year. Major Barnes talked about fighting, and said we wanted to go out into the open. Yes, we do! You will never get registration if you stop in these funk-holes, and the unification scheme is the worst funk-hole I ever heard of.

The CHAIRMAN: I shall now take the vote on Mr. Dawber's amendment.

149 voted in favour of the amendment; 74 against.

A MEMBER (to the Chairman): Give a casting vote.

The CHAIRMAN: What is the use of asking me to give a casting vote, with those figures? The amendment now becomes the substantive motion. The motion is, "That this Bill be not considered until other professional societies and interests affected have been consulted and a general consensus of opinion obtained in favour of the Bill." I ask for a vote on that.

166 voted in favour, 83 against.

The CHAIRMAN: I declare the motion carried by the required two-thirds majority.

WHITGIFT HOSPITAL, CROYDON.

A fully attended conference of representatives of societies and other bodies opposed to the demolition of the Whitgift Hospital was held at the Royal Institute of British Architects on 6 February, with Mr. Paul Waterhouse, P.R.I.B.A., in the chair. It was decided to take joint action in opposition to the Bill promoted by the Croydon Borough Council.

Royal Gold Medallist.

The President announced at the last meeting of the Institute that the Council proposed to submit to H.M. the King the name of Sir John J. Burnet, A.R.A., R.S.A., Hon. LL.D., as a fit recipient of the Royal Gold Medal of Architecture for the current year.

The Birmingham Civic Society*

BY WILLIAM HAYWOOD [F.], HON. SECRETARY, BIRMINGHAM CIVIC SOCIETY.

IN this description of the constitution and work of the Birmingham Civic Society, I believe that you seek information which will help towards similar work being done here, in Manchester, by a Society of your own—possibly by this Federation. I shall therefore give you as faithful a record of our work and methods as is possible in the time at my disposal.

It will be difficult to give my address coherence, but I will endeavour to be as little discursive as possible in dealing with a subject which so readily branches along attractive by-ways; and to get rid of some of these asides at the outset, I will sketch quite briefly the general modern movement towards civic betterment of this character, before taking in more detail the work with which I have been actively associated.

In 1890 (twenty years before the first Civic Society appeared in England) the first Municipal Art Commission was established at Boston, U.S. It is not implied by this comparison of dates that the first stirrings in this phase of Civic Consciousness in England were twenty years behind those of America. The somewhat tardy employment of civic societies here is partly explained by our activities in other sections of civic awakening, and partly by our national psychology, which is not easily moved to corporate expression in matters of this kind. This reluctance is very marked in connection with Art Commissions, of which the first British example has been set up recently in Birmingham. For the better understanding of this Commission, I purpose to say something more of its American prototypes.

The first such Commission appears to have been established by a Boston Law of 1890, which authorised the setting up of a jury to which all works of art for municipal ownership must be submitted for approval before acceptance. This experiment in the legal control of amenity was wisely restricted to particular classes of works of art, and made no attempt to influence the character of design in structure. The next step in the same direction, and on a similarly experimental basis, was taken by the city of Baltimore in 1895, the Mayor, and seven members representing local cultural bodies, being elected to serve as Commissioners for the purpose of controlling the erection of statues, fountains, arches, monuments or memorials of any kind to be erected in any public place or municipal building, or any variation in any such existing works.

Boston enlarged its powers in 1898, when it was provided that the Commissioners should be five in number, appointed by the Mayor from lists supplied by selected art groups, the time of service to be for five years, and a change of personnel to be made each year by the automatic retirement of one member. Power of veto was taken upon all municipal paintings, mural decorations, statues, bas-reliefs, sculptures, monuments, arches, ornamental gateways and other structures of a permanent character intended for ornament or commemoration, all of which

had perforce to obtain the sanction of the Commission before acceptance. The Commission also acted, when requested by the Mayor or the City Council to do so, with respect to "any municipal building, bridge, approach, lamp, ornamental gate or fence, or other structure erected or to be erected upon land belonging to the city, and in respect of any arch, bridge, structure or approach, the property of any corporation or individual, and extending in, over or upon any street, avenue, highway, park or public space." These powers constitute in effect a control of all purely decorative art for public purposes and, subject to a request by the local authority, a control of all amenity in public structure.

New York set up its first Commission in 1898, and extended its powers in 1901 and 1907. In the original act it was thought wise to follow the lead of Boston and Baltimore, and to be conservative, in view of the experimental nature of the work, for which reason the mandatory provisions of the 1898 Act only applied to paintings, sculptures and purely decorative works. Later, these mandatory powers were extended.

The following notes on the work of the New York Art Commission will probably be a sufficient indication of the establishment and working of similar Commissions in other cities of America. The first few years were difficult. The Commission had no permanent quarters, and met in the homes and offices of various members (a usual and very undesirable condition with young Commissions and Civic Societies). In 1902, however, offices were provided in the City Hall, the Municipality took over the cost of administration, and at the same time an executive officer, a clerk and a typist were appointed. It was at this time that the jurisdiction of the Commission was extended to cover all public structures built wholly or in part upon public land; also upon the lines, grades and plotting of public ways and grounds, the only exception being that when such structures cost \$350,000 or less, the Commission may be requested by the Mayor or the Board of Aldermen not to act. Such a request has never been made. As the Commission showed willingness and ability to function effectively, it gradually became the custom for the mayor to refer to it all important structures, and later practically all structures. Hence the various extensions of power already referred to, which have merely put into legal form, what had already become a common practice. During its first four years the Commission received an average of six submissions annually, but in 1907 (the ninth year) one hundred and sixty-eight submissions were dealt with, and in the year 1912 two hundred and sixty-three, increases which tell their own story.

In conclusion of this section, it may be summarised that by 1912 there were seventeen Art Commissions in America, ranging in power from an advisory capacity (as in the case of the National Commission at Washington or that of the City of Charleston) to the fully organised New York Commission, which forms part of the City government, and has power to approve or disapprove both municipal and private projects.

* A Paper read before the Manchester Society of Architects.

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In addition to the above, there is a Civic Association in America which represents the local activities of two hundred cities, but whether their programme of work is similar to that of the English Civic Societies I am unable to say.

I come now to that phase of civic betterment in this country which may be regarded as within the province of civic societies; and I believe I am right in saying that "The City Guild" of Liverpool, inaugurated in 1910, stands as the first body of this kind in England. The Guild apparently made a good start in membership, but during and since the war it does not appear to have been very active.

"The London Society," founded in 1912, has from the outset had the support of many very distinguished people, and of such public bodies as the Royal Academy, the Royal Society of Arts, the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Royal Society of Sculptors, the Surveyors' Institution and the Incorporated Society of Municipal Engineers. In its first year four hundred members were enrolled, some of whom appear to have fallen away during the war, but in 1919-20, the membership was more than doubled, and this rate of increase has probably been maintained, since it has been fully justified by the excellent work accomplished, including as it does the wonderfully interesting and useful development plan, and also the recently published *London of the Future*. With a subscription list in 1920 of £550 a year, and a life membership reserve fund of £536, the Society has apparently got well away from the cruder forms of financial difficulty.

Civic societies now exist in Birmingham, Cardiff, Chesterfield, Glasgow, Leeds, Nottingham and Sheffield, and, I believe, in one or two smaller places. Some are just formed, some have been established four or five years, and some, no doubt, are more or less in that state of suspense which ensues when the warmth of good intentions is brought in contact with the apparently insoluble apathy of a Philistine public and its representatives. A new civic society in the provinces has more than its share of difficulties. I suppose the number of other societies that fail to "make good," even when the objects in view are mildly or frankly selfish, must be very high. The professional associations of provincial towns, for instance, with their automatic agenda of business happenings, are sometimes quite difficult to hold together; and it is naturally much more difficult to maintain an interest in the pursuit of abstract beauty. Yet if civic work of this kind is unusually difficult, it is also unusually important, and there are encouraging signs that the difficulties will rapidly grow less, now that public opinion is veering towards an increased interest in urban amenity.

In the matter of policy it may be noted that two methods of procedure are possible for civic societies: the public may be aroused by propaganda, to require the support of their municipal representatives for a clearly defined policy favourable to amenity (a line of action which it is possible might involve some change of departmental personnel) or alternatively, they may work as an advisory body in association with existing conditions, when those conditions are sufficiently friendly towards the objects in view. The first method has certain obvious advantages and is much used in America, but English psychology and municipal

conditions will usually suggest the second method for adoption in this country, if local authorities and their officials are sufficiently open to this sort of collaboration.

Speaking generally, we in Birmingham have been as fortunate in the reception of our overtures as we had any reason to expect, and our results are a tribute both to municipal administrative capacity, and our own ability to put forward ideas in such practical terms, that they deserve and receive respectful consideration.

The Birmingham Society (founded in 1918) has not, so far, aimed at a large membership. It was an early decision of the Council that we should test our opportunities, and our ability to meet them, before going to the public for support, and we have been able to do this, largely by virtue of a grant of £300 a year from the Birmingham Common Good Fund.* This grant to the Civic Society is made from year to year, and while it is not regarded by the trustees nor ourselves as permanent, the probability is that it will continue while we need and deserve it.

Respecting the important matter of office equipment, those of you who saw Professor Abercrombie's article on "A Civic Society" in the *Town Planning Review* of April, 1920, may remember the following reference to the need for a full-time secretary and independent quarters. He says: "It is absolutely essential for the work of the Society that there should be a permanent and paid secretary, and an office, however small, should be obtained. It is a great mistake to attempt to make business men responsible for the secretarial work in connection with a civic society. Nor is a part-time secretary sufficient; besides the purely secretarial work, there is the continuity of the Society's action, which can only be maintained and stimulated by having someone whose sole object it is to keep it going. The somnolence which has crept over certain civic societies can be directly attributed to this absence of a permanent secretary, for when any job of work occurs, a committee of busy men is apt to find excuses for shelving it, if on their shoulders the burden alone falls. On the other hand, a few minutes of advice from these same members of the committee is sufficient for the secretary's guidance."

This is most true as regards offices, and, in its first year, the Birmingham Society took two rooms for committee and secretarial purposes, which we regard as a quite essential provision although a heavy charge upon our resources, but I am not sure that I agree with Professor Abercrombie with respect to the secretary. We have failed with two, and the fault was not altogether, I think, with the secretaries. My experience suggests that an honorary standing is almost essential when seeking interviews with influential men, in order to submit to them well-meant but unsought opinions. Such interviewing and many other matters are urgent, and cannot wait for council sanction, nor for the approval of a member of committee; moreover, an extensive technical knowledge is of vital importance when making first approaches, in order to influence on the spot matters susceptible of alternative action. In

* A Municipal Trust established by Alderman George Cadbury in 1917, and controlling at that time an endowment fund and an amenities fund of £10,000 and £3,000 respectively. These amounts have since been very greatly increased.

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these and other ways, the professional secretary is handicapped, so that I very much doubt his ability to maintain continuity of action, where there are no precedents to guide him, and no agreed or recurring order of work established. One could say more on this matter, but it is enough for my present purpose that partly for these reasons, and partly because the Birmingham Society had need of the money for more urgent purposes, a typist was engaged in 1920 and all other secretarial business was given to the honorary secretary.

It now remains to preface my notes on the work of the Society, by a statement of its general aims. These are as follows:—

No. 1. To stimulate historical interest in the city, and to preserve all buildings and monuments of historical worth.

No. 2. To preserve all objects of beauty, and to maintain a vigilant opposition to all acts of vandalism.

No. 3. To promote a sense of beauty, and to stimulate civic pride in the domestic and civic life of the citizens, by urging the adoption of the highest standards of architecture for domestic buildings, offices, warehouses, factories, etc.

No. 4. To work for a more beautiful city:—

(a) By advocating the public acquisition of land for the provision of open spaces for recreative purposes, parks, parkways, squares, gardens and ornamental features at road crossings, etc.

(b) By assisting with advice any scheme or works controlled by public bodies, ranging from town planning to designs for parks, bridges, fountains, memorials, shelters, seats, lamp standards, tramway masts, and the like.

(c) By co-operating with the Education Committee and Training Guilds for the development of local art, and helping to co-ordinate the efforts of existing societies by uniting architectural, engineering, artistic and handicraft groups in a common aim.

No. 5. In addition to influencing the work of others, to select suitable projects to be carried out by the Society itself.

No. 6. The Society shall seek to carry out these aims by means of newspaper and other propaganda, including exhibitions, lectures, competitions, etc.

In working out this programme, contact with the city authorities (other than that established by the Lord Mayor as President, and the annual election of two members of the City Council to serve on the Council of the Society) has been kept green by the occasional purchase of open spaces for presentation to the City as recreative areas. The last purchase of 42 acres, adjoining Mr. Chamberlain's residence at Highbury, has just been completed, the land being conveyed to the City with an agreement that the Society is to be consulted in the layout and treatment of the grounds. These purchases were made possible by the generosity of anonymous trustees who placed £15,000 at our disposal for this purpose in 1918.

From the first, the Society has worked hard to get every phase of recreation in the city co-ordinated and reduced to a system, with a view to providing proper facilities for those areas at present neglected, especially in the centre of the city. A resolution to the Lord Mayor from one of

several meetings resulted in invitations from the City Parks Committee to representatives of various organisations, to discuss our suggestions, and a Special Committee now exists to consider and report upon the whole question of recreation in its broader aspects, a work which is held up at present by lack of funds, the trust money in our hands not being available for this purpose.

Another of our park activities is associated with a scheme for the special treatment of a road junction (agreed to by the Public Works Department) which includes the provision of a new entrance to our principal suburban park. Lord Calthorpe, the local landowner, is giving two corner sections of land (about one acre), and the Society has allocated £1,000 towards the cost involved in special features of the scheme. This work is likely to be carried out at an early date as part of an unemployment scheme.

Two Park Guides have been published, one of the Lickey Hills reservation, which is now in its third edition; and one of Sutton Park, recently issued; these guides are in great demand. We publish without profit. We exclude all advertisements, and we take pains to make these and our other publications carry the message of amenity which we exist as a society to inculcate.

A gold medal is awarded annually by the Society to the author of the work judged to have added most to the recent amenities of the city. This award was intended originally to be given to the best street façade, but such a limited application would have resulted in far less significance for our award than it now has. The fact that the bronze medal of the Royal Institute of British Architects is awarded to façades in London, is no authority for similar action in the provinces. Sectionalism is necessary in London, but in other than metropolitan areas such subdivision would be weakening, especially when practised by civic societies. Our first award in 1921 went to Music in the person of Mr. Appleby Matthews, conductor of the Municipal Orchestra, and our second to Mr. Barry Jackson in recognition of the high civic importance and artistic distinction of his work at the Repertory Theatre. In each case the ceremony of presentation was given a definite civic character, and it is already evident that this public recognition of noteworthy service to the higher life of our city is warmly approved on all sides.

In such matters as the design of street decoration for public ceremony, the city authorities willingly seek our aid, as when staging the Armistice ceremony in 1921 and 1922. The scheme prepared by the Society for this occasion arranged the several factors of the ensemble in suitable relation one to another, leading naturally to a massed arrangement of coloured silks draped from the podium of the Town Hall to the ground, with a pedestal for floral tributes below, and a rostrum for the City's representatives under the colonnade above. Time, money and materials were short, but we succeeded in giving a dignity to the occasion which it had previously lacked. It is now quite usual for the Society to be consulted on occasions of similar character.

Another phase of our work is represented by a project for the preservation of the old village of Northfield, within the S.W. Birmingham town-planning scheme. This work had the sympathetic support of the Public Works Department during its preparation, and the proposal eventually

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put forward now forms part of the town plan. Moreover, a photographic record of the village having been made and its history written up, the work was published as one of our brochures. Schemes of this kind have a special importance to-day, for they illustrate very clearly the need for preserving such picturesque buildings, villages and natural scenery as remain about our cities, at a time when rapid building developments may thoughtlessly destroy them.

The nature of the committee is best understood from the clauses of its constitution, which have been recently amended, and now read as follows :—

(1) The committee shall consist of not more than twelve ex-officio members, and shall have power to co-opt four additional members, who shall be selected for technical knowledge in art matters. The election of such members shall be made at the first meeting in the year, and they shall serve for not more than two* years consecutively.

(2) The following shall be ex-officio members of the said committee :—The Lord Mayor, a representative of the Birmingham Public Works Committee, a representative of the Education Committee, the City Surveyor, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, the Principal of the University, the Director of the School of Art, the Director of the School of Architecture, the President of the Birmingham Architectural Association, the Chairman and the Hon. Secretary of the Civic Society.

(3) The Committee shall elect a President and Hon. Secretary from its own members whose term of office shall be for one year.

(4) The Committee shall have power to adopt its own rules of procedure, and three shall form a quorum.

(5) The findings of the Committee upon all matters submitted to it shall be in the nature of recommendations only.

(6) The Committee shall hold all matters submitted to it in confidence ; no matter referred to it shall be divulged, and no report of its proceedings issued except by previous agreement with the Corporation Committees concerned.

(7) The Committee shall in ordinary circumstances report upon any matter submitted to it within thirty-six days, provided that any submission after the 12th of the month shall be dated as received on the first of the month following, but shorter periods may be arranged with the departments concerned for reports on urgent work, or an extension of time may be arranged where there is no urgency.

(8) Hereafter all such new designs for public buildings, bridges, lamps, gates, fences, public conveniences, or other structures to be erected upon land belonging to the City, all such proposals for planning and laying out new parks or park extensions, all such new statues, fountains, arches, monuments or memorials of any kind to be erected in any public street, square, park or municipal building, as may be selected for submission to the Advisory Art Committee by the City departments concerned, shall be reported upon by the Advisory Art Committee.

You will notice that we are still, as it were, on probation. The City authorities reserve the right to accept our advice or not ; they also submit their proposals to us at pleasure ; but we are anxious to make no false step in a matter of such far-reaching importance, and it is for us so to prove

* Length of time not yet finally agreed.

our capacity by the advice we give, that we shall accomplish out of deference to our wisdom, that which we have no power to enforce.

Such new methods as these are best put in motion gradually, and if you recall my references to early caution and subsequent activity in America, you will see that we have taken an equally reasonable course, and that success is very largely our own affair.

Clause 6 of the Advisory Art Committee's constitution stipulates that no details of its work shall be divulged, but I may say in quite general terms that the spirit of co-operation between the Committee and the City departments is excellent ; that we already have much work to do ; and that one of the greatest pleasures in doing this work comes from the knowledge that it has an immediate bearing upon actualities.

R.I.B.A. ANNUAL DINNER, 1923.

It has been decided by the Council that the Annual Dinner of 1923 shall take the form of a banquet in connection with the Bicentenary Celebration of Sir Christopher Wren.

The dinner will accordingly be held on Monday, 26 February 1923, at the Hotel Victoria, Northumberland Avenue ; and, in place of the usual after-dinner speeches, addresses will be delivered by the President, Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., and Mr. Mervyn Macartney, F.S.A., dealing with various aspects of Wren's life and achievements. A number of distinguished guests are expected, and it is hoped that there will be a good attendance of members.

The price of tickets is 17s. 6d. for members, and for members' guests (exclusive of wines and cigars), and £2 for members and for members' guests (inclusive of wines and cigars). A special card will be supplied for guests, and it would be a convenience if members would kindly give the names of their guests when applying for tickets. All applications, with cheques, should be addressed to the Secretary.

Early application would greatly facilitate the arrangements ; and if members would send an intimation to the Secretary some days beforehand as to the friends near whom they desire to sit, every endeavour will be made, when arranging the plan of the tables, to meet their wishes as far as possible.

ARTHUR KEEN, *Hon. Secretary.*
IAN MACALISTER, *Secretary.*

VISIT TO CITY CHURCHES.

The Art Standing Committee have arranged a visit to the City Churches on Saturday, 24 February 1923, beginning at 2.30 p.m. Mr. Arthur Keen, Hon. Secretary R.I.B.A., has kindly consented to conduct the visit.

The following churches will be visited :—

- 2.30. St. Stephen's, Walbrook.
- 2.55. St. Mary Abchurch.
- 3.20. St. Mary's, Aldermanbury.
- 3.45. St. Margaret Lothbury.
- 4.10. St. Lawrence Jewry.
- 4.35. St. Mary-le-Bow.

Members and Licentiate desiring to take part should apply to the Secretary R.I.B.A. as soon as possible.

The Bicentenary of the Death of Sir Christopher Wren

The Royal Institute of British Architects has arranged to celebrate the bicentenary of the death of Sir Christopher Wren, which took place on 25 February 1723.

With the assistance of other bodies interested, a Grand Committee has been formed for the purpose of drawing up a suitable programme and assisting to carry it into effect.

PROGRAMME.

COMMEMORATION SERVICE IN ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

Monday, 26 February, 2.30 p.m.—The Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's have arranged a special Commemoration Service on Monday, 26 February, at 2.30 p.m. The members of the Grand Committee, led by Mr. Paul Waterhouse, President of the R.I.B.A., and accompanied by the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of the City of London, will assemble in St. Paul's Churchyard at 2.20 p.m., and proceed into the Cathedral.

In the course of the service an Address will be delivered by the Very Rev. W. R. Inge, D.D., Dean of St. Paul's. The Anthem to be sung will be "O Clap your Hands," by Greene, who was Organist of St. Paul's, 1718-1755.

The members of the Grand Committee, accompanied by the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, will then proceed to the Crypt, where the President of the Royal Institute will lay a wreath upon the tomb of Sir Christopher Wren.

The service will be open to the general public.

4 p.m.—The Lord Mayor will entertain the members of the Grand Committee at tea at the Mansion House.

7 for 7.30 p.m.—The Royal Institute of British Architects will give a "Christopher Wren Commemoration Banquet" at the Hotel Victoria, Northumberland Avenue. The members of the Grand Committee and a large number of other distinguished guests have been invited to be present. In place of the usual after-dinner speeches, commemorative addresses, dealing with the life and work of Wren, will be delivered by the President of the R.I.B.A. (Mr. Paul Waterhouse), Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., and Mr. Mervyn Macartney, F.S.A., Surveyor of St. Paul's Cathedral.

EXHIBITION.

26 February to 3 March, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.—An Exhibition of drawings and photographs, illustrating Wren's work, and of books, letters, and other relics, will be held in the Galleries of the Royal Institute.

A small Exhibition arranged by the Public Record Office will be open to the public between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. (except Saturdays and Sundays) in the Museum of the Public Record Office, Chancery Lane, W.C.2. Autograph letters of Wren, original drawings and other contemporary documents will be on view.

VISITS.

19 February to 3 March.—A programme of visits to Wren's principal buildings, under the general direction of Mr. Percy Lovell, B.A., A.R.I.B.A., Hon. Secretary of the London Society, has been arranged by the Selborne Society. These will include specially guided visits to St. Paul's Cathedral, the City Churches, Chelsea Hospital, Hampton Court Palace, Kensington Palace, Greenwich Hospital, and the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. Full particulars of these visits, which are open to the general public, and the necessary tickets can be obtained on

application to Percival J. Ashton, Esq., 72, High Street, Bromley, Kent. (Early application should be made.)

MEMORIAL VOLUME.

By arrangement with the Grand Committee, Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton will publish a Memorial Volume, dealing with various aspects of Sir Christopher Wren's life and work, under the general editorship of Mr. Rudolf Dircks, Librarian of the Royal Institute of British Architects. The volume will contain facsimile reproductions of original letters and drawings of Sir Christopher Wren, numerous reproductions of engravings, and original drawings by various artists, as well as a number of coloured plates by well-known artists (including Sir G. Kneller's portrait), and contributions by S. D. Adshead, F.R.I.B.A., Professor of Town Planning, London University; Rev. S. A. Alexander, Canon and Treasurer, St. Paul's Cathedral; Sir William Bayliss, F.R.S., D.Sc., LL.D.; Somers Clarke, Late Surveyor to the Fabric of St. Paul's Cathedral; J. Alfred Gotch, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A.; A. R. Hinks, F.R.S., Gresham Lecturer in Astronomy; Arthur Keen, F.R.I.B.A.; Mervyn E. Macartney, B.A., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., Surveyor to the Fabric of St. Paul's Cathedral; Ellis H. Minns, Litt.D.; A. Beresford Pite, M.A. (Hon. Cantab.), F.R.I.B.A., Professor of Architecture, Royal College of Art, South Kensington; A. E. Richardson, F.R.I.B.A., Professor of Architecture, London University; Sir William Schooling, K.B.E.; Arthur Stratton, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., Reader in Architecture, London University; Laurence Turner, Past Master, Art Workers' Guild; W. Henry Ward, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A.; Mr. Edward Warren, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A.; Maurice Webb, D.S.O.; with introduction by Sir Aston Webb, K.C.V.O., C.B., F.R.I.B.A., President of the Royal Academy. It will be published on 26 February at the price of £5 5s. and upwards, and all the profits from its sale will be handed over to the St. Paul's Cathedral Preservation Fund.

FANCY DRESS BALL AND CARNIVAL.

9 March.—The Architectural Students of London have arranged to hold a Fancy Dress Ball and Carnival in the Galleries of the R.I.B.A. on 9 March 1923. The profits will be devoted to the St. Paul's Cathedral Preservation Fund. (For tickets and particulars apply to the Secretary, The A.A., 34, Bedford Square, W.C.1.)

IAN MACALISTER, Secretary R.I.B.A.

VISIT TO CAMBRIDGE.

The attention of members is particularly called to the visit to Cambridge on 27 February 1923. This visit forms part of the Wren Bicentenary Celebrations, and is arranged in conjunction with the Selborne Society. The main Wren buildings to be seen are the Library of Trinity College, the Chapel of Pembroke, and Emmanuel College. At 4.15 the Master and Fellows of Pembroke College will entertain the party to tea. There will be an organ recital of contemporary music in Pembroke College Chapel at 5.15, for which a limited number of tickets are available for Members and Licentiates of the R.I.B.A. All applications for these tickets and for particulars concerning trains and other arrangements should be made to: Percival J. Ashton, Esq., Hon. Secretary, The Selborne Society, 72 High Street, Bromley, Kent.

NOTICES

The Examinations

THE SPECIAL WAR EXAMINATION

The following candidates have passed the Special War Examination held in Toronto in December last:—

BROWN : JOHN GREY, 292, Second Avenue, Longuenil, P.Q.
 ILLSLEY : HUGH PERCIVAL, 134, Clandeboye Avenue, Westmount, P.Q.

JEFFREY : JAMES ROWE, 247, Elm Avenue, Westmount, P.Q.
 KINGSTON : JOHN LYNDHURST, 336, Jackson Building, Ottawa.
 MARROTTE : EDGAR SAMUEL, 100, Souvenir Avenue, Montreal.
 NESBITT : JOHN KENNETH, La Tuque, P.Q.

PRIDEAUX : ARTHUR, c/o Messrs. Nobbs & Hyde, 14, Phillips Square, Montreal.

WIGGS : HENRY ROSS, Hessel Grove, St. Foy Road, Quebec, P.Q.

Notices

The Eighth General Meeting (Ordinary) of the Session 1922-1923 will be held on Monday, 19 February 1923, at 8 p.m., for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5 February 1923; formally to admit members attending for the first time since their election.

To read the following paper, "Architecture and Architects in India," by H. V. Lanchester [F.].

BUSINESS MEETING, 5 MARCH 1923.

An election of members will take place at the Business General Meeting, Monday, 5 March. The names and addresses of the candidates (with the names of their proposers), found by the Council to be eligible and qualified for membership according to the Charter and Bye-laws and recommended by them for election, are as follows:—

AS FELLOWS (4).

KENYON : ARTHUR WILLIAM [A. 1907], 22 Surrey Street, Strand, W.C.2; 474 Russell Road, Kensington, W.14. Proposed by David Barclay Niven, Professor S. D. Adshhead, S. B. Russell.

ROBERTSON : ANDREW [A. 1893], 278 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow; 121 Woodstock Avenue, Shawlands, Glasgow. Proposed by David Salmond, James Lockhead, Wm. B. Whitie.

SOISSONS : LOUIS EMANNUEL JEAN GUY DE SAVOIE CARIGNAN DE, O.B.E., S.A.D.G. [A. 1918], Blue Ball Yard, 64 St. James's Street, S.W.1; 62 Handside Lane, Welwyn Garden City. Proposed by Horace Farquharson, W. H. Ward, Professor A. E. Richardson.

WORNUM : GEORGE GREY [A. 1921], Blue Ball Yard, 64 St. James's Street, S.W.1. Proposed by Arthur Keen, John W. Simpson, Maxwell Ayrton.

AS ASSOCIATES (9).

DIXON : CHARLES GUY [Special War Examination], c/o Dr. W. H. Dixon, Vereeniging, Transvaal, S. Africa. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Charles E. Varndell, George Edw. Withers.

HASWELL : PERCY BENSON, B.Arch. (Liverpool) [Passed five years' course at Liverpool University School of Architecture—Exempted from Final Examination after passing Examination in Professional Practice], 10 Grosvenor Park Road, Chester. Proposed by Edgar Quiggin, Gilbert Fraser, E. Bertram Kirby.

KNOTT : ALFRED STOCKEN [Special War Examination], 1 Greycoat Gardens, Westminster, S.W. Proposed by Ralph Knott, Robert Atkinson, George Edw. Withers.

NEWHAM : WILLIAM BENJAMIN TURNER [Special Examination], c/o Association of Transvaal Architects, Exploration Buildings, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg, S. Africa. Proposed by C. E. Varndell, J. A. Gotch, Robert Atkinson.

OWEN : GEOFFREY LEYLAND [Special War Examination], Dockmaster's House, King George Dock, Hull. Proposed by Professor C. H. Reilly and the Council.

SILK : GUY WHITEHALL [Special War Examination], 5 Provost Road, Hampstead, N.W.3. Proposed by Major Harry Barnes, Robert Atkinson, E. Stanley Hall.

STOCKS : CLIFFORD WILLIAM BURNETT [Special War Examination], Chamber of Commerce Building, East London, S. Africa. Proposed by W. White-Cooper, Franklin K. Kendall, Albert J. Thompson.

TAIT : ALFRED ALEXANDER [Special War Examination], Spes Bona Buildings, High Street, Grahamstown, S. Africa. Proposed by Franklin K. Kendall, W. White-Cooper, W. Hawke.

WILLIAMS : ALBERT ERNEST [Special Examination], 111 Russell Street, Gisborne, New Zealand. Proposed by Walter R. Jaggard and the Council.

R.I.B.A. STREET ARCHITECTURE MEDAL.

Members and Licentiates are informed that they need not submit a photograph and elevation of a building which they wish to nominate for the R.I.B.A. Street Architecture Medal, except in cases where they wish to nominate a building erected to their own designs. The Secretary R.I.B.A. has arranged to inform architects of buildings for which nominations have been received, and will invite them to send photographs and elevations for the Jury's consideration.

Members' Column

OFFICE WANTED.

A MEMBER R.I.B.A. wishes a room in West End office at moderate rent. Please send full particulars. Apply Box 906, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, W.1.

PARTNERSHIP WANTED.

IRISH architect wishes to purchase partnership in the South of England. Age 40. F.R.I.A. Ireland and M.T.P.I. First-class connection and could introduce work in near future. Special knowledge of housing and town planning.—Apply Box 3223, c/o The Secretary R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, London, W.1.

APPOINTMENTS WANTED.

ASSOCIATE (disabled, 27) desires change. Experienced working drawings, details, specimens, field surveys, and good knowledge quantities. Good references.—Apply Box 926, c/o The Secretary R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, London, W.1.

ASSOCIATE R.I.B.A., with 12 years' experience in good New York City offices, including Cass Gilbert, Trowbridge and Ackerman, J. Armstrong Stenhouse, Fredk. Sterner, finds it desirable, for family reasons, to return to England, and would be glad to hear of any suitable proposition. Previously in practice in London. Now and for past two years engaged as designer with one of the best known younger New York men. For further information apply Box 1513, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, W.1.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT requires post in any capacity. Many years' experience in the Tropics and South Africa. Married; 35. First-class draughtsman; excellent references. An immediate appointment is essential. Not afraid of real work. Apply Box 445, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, W.1.

GENTLEMAN WITH CAPITAL, A.R.I.B.A., varied experience in London and provinces—travelled—good designer and capable business man with practical knowledge, requires share in bona-fide practice or Senior Assistant's post with view to same. Box 2513, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, London, W.1.

LICENTIATE wishes to communicate with any member or licentiate in Liverpool and district with a view to preparing Bills of Quantities for any work they may have in hand or in prospect. Terms on application. Experience 26 years.—Apply Box 455, c/o The Secretary R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, London, W.1.

Minutes VII

SESSION 1922-1923.

At a Special General Meeting summoned by the Council under By-Law 64 and held on Monday, 29 January 1923, at 5 p.m.—Mr. A. W. S. Cross, Vice-President, in the chair. The attendance book was signed by 120 Fellows (including 25 members of the Council), 144 Associates (including 5 members of the Council), and 10 Licentiates. Letters from the President and Mr. J. A. Gotch [F.] having been read, the following Resolution was moved by Mr. Sydney Perks [F.], and seconded by Mr. C. H. Heathcote, Vice-President:

"That the Draft Bill be approved in principle subject to further consideration of the various clauses."

The following amendment was moved by Mr. G. A. T. Middleton [A.], and seconded by Mr. Bernard Dicksee [F.] :

"That the draft Registration Bill be referred back to the Council for both general and detailed reconsideration before being again submitted to a General Meeting."

After discussion, in which Professor A. Beresford Pite [F.] and Mr. W. Gillbee Scott took part, the amendment was put to the vote and negatived by a large majority.

The following amendment was moved by Mr. E. Guy Dawber [F.], and seconded by Mr. Josiah Gunton [F.] :

"That this Bill be not considered until the other professional Societies and interests affected have been consulted, and a general consensus of professional opinion obtained in favour of the Bill."

The amendment was supported by Major H. C. Corlette [F.], Mr. H. T. Buckland [F.], Major Harry Barnes [F.], Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., Past-President, and opposed by Mr. Delissa Joseph [F.], Mr. F. Woodward [A.], Mr. Alan Munby [F.], and Mr. Sydney Perks [F.].

The amendment was put to the vote and carried by 149 votes to 74. It was then put as a substantive motion and carried by 166 votes to 83.

The Chairman stated that the Resolution had been carried by the necessary two-thirds majority.

The proceedings terminated at 6.55 p.m.

Minutes VIII

SESSION 1922-1923.

At the Seventh General Meeting (Ordinary) of the Session 1922-1923 held on Monday, 5 February 1923, at 8.30 p.m.—Present: Mr. Paul Waterhouse, President, in the chair. The attendance book was signed by 30 Fellows (including 15 Members of the Council), 43 Associates (including 3 Members of the Council), 4 Licentiates and a large number of visitors.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 January 1923, having been published in the JOURNAL, were taken as read and signed as correct.

The Secretary announced that the Council had nominated for election to the various classes of Membership the gentlemen whose names were published in the JOURNAL for 13 January.

The Hon. Secretary announced the decease of Mr. A. T. Walmisley, M.Inst.C.E., elected Hon. Associate 1896, who represented this Institute on the Joint Committee on Reinforced Concrete, and also served on the Science Standing Committee; Mr. F. P. Halsall, elected Associate in 1894; and Mr. T. Roderick, elected Licentiate in 1911; and it was RESOLVED that the regrets of the Institute for their loss be entered on the Minutes and that a message of sympathy and condolence be conveyed to their relatives.

The following member, attending for the first time since his election, was formally admitted by the President:—Mr. A. V. Farrier [A.].

The President announced that the Council proposed to submit to His Majesty the King the name of Sir John J. Burnet, A.R.A., R.S.A., Hon. LL.D., as a fit recipient of the Royal Gold Medal for Architecture for the current year.

The President, having delivered the Annual Address to students, a vote of thanks was passed to him by acclamation on the motion of the Right Hon. Viscount Leverhulme, seconded by Mr. W. R. Davies, C.B., of H.M. Board of Education.

Mr. H. V. Ashley [F.] read a review of the works submitted for the Prizes and Studentships 1923.

The President, having responded to the vote of thanks to himself, moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Ashley, which was passed by acclamation.

The Presentation of Prizes was then made as follows, in accordance with the Deed of Award:—

The R.I.B.A. Essay Prize.—The Silver Medal and Cheque £26 ss. to Mr. Lionel B. Budden, M.A., A.R.I.B.A., for his Essay on "An Introduction to the Theory of Architecture," submitted under the motto "Aristus."

The R.I.B.A. Measured Drawings Prize.—The Silver Medal and cheque £50 to Mr. Wesley Dougill, B.Arch.Liverpool, A.R.I.B.A., for his Measured Drawings of the Campidoglio, Rome, submitted under the motto "Oxnop."

The Tite Certificate and £100.—The Tite Certificate to Mr. John Chiene Shepherd, A.R.I.B.A., for his design for An Italian Embassy in a European Capital, submitted under the motto "Tujja," and a Certificate of Honourable Mention to Miss Isabel Maud Chambers for her design submitted under the motto "Poffery."

The Pugin Studentship Silver Medal and £75.—The Medal to Mr. A. Newton Thorpe.

The Owen Jones Studentship Certificate and £100.—The Owen Jones Certificate to Mr. Cyril Forbes Filbey.

The Henry Saxon Snell Prize and £60.—The President introduced Mr. Ernest G. Theakston, F.R.I.B.A., as the successful candidate for the Prize for his design for "A Maternity Home and Infant Welfare Centre," submitted under the motto "Ad Rem," and presented Certificates of Honourable Mention to Mr. George Bertram Edward Norburn, A.R.I.B.A., and Mr. Alfred John Brown, A.R.I.B.A., for their designs, submitted under the motto "Roona" and the device of a Crane.

The Godwin Bursary and Wimperis Bequest £130.—The Godwin Silver Medal to Mr. William Thomas Benslyn, A.R.I.B.A.

The Grissell Gold Medal and Cheque £50.—To Mr. Percy Morrey, M.B.E., A.R.I.B.A., for his design for a Warehouse, submitted under the motto "Rivet."

The R.I.B.A. Silver Medal for Post-Graduate Students of "Recognised Schools."—The Silver Medal to Mr. Percy Benson Haswell, of the School of Architecture, University of Liverpool.

The Ashpitel Prize.—The books to the value of £10 to Mr. Alexander Simpson Reid, A.R.I.B.A., represented by Mr. Simpson Low, A.R.I.B.A.

The proceedings closed at 10.5 p.m.

Arrangements have been made for the supply of the R.I.B.A. JOURNAL (post free) to members of the Allied Societies who are not members of the R.I.B.A. at a specially reduced subscription of 12s. a year. Those who wish to take advantage of this arrangement are requested to send their names to the Secretary of the R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

Members sending remittances by postal order for subscriptions or Institute publications are warned of the necessity of complying with Post Office Regulations with regard to this method of payment. Postal orders should be made payable to the Secretary R.I.B.A., and crossed.

IAN MACALISTER,
Secretary R.I.B.A.

